CHAPTER III

Early Explorations of Southwest Virginia by the White Man.

From the time of the first settlement at Jamestown in 1607, the English Colony had grown rapidly and had expanded until their western borders were in view of the Blue Ridge. With the usual vigor and enterprise of the Anglo-Saxon, we find, in the year 1641, a number of the citizens of Virginia petitioning the House of Burgesses for permission to undertake the discovery of a new river of land west and southerly from the Appomattox, and, in March, 1642, we find the House of Burgesses passing an act granting such permission. The act is as follows:

"Forasmuch as Walker Austin, Rice Hoe, Joseph Johnson and Walter Chiles, for themselves and such others as they shall think fitt to joyn with them, did petition in the Assembly in June 1641 for leave and encouragement to undertake the discovery of a new river of unknowne land bearing west southerly from Appomattake river, Be it enacted and confirmed, that they and every one of them and whom they shall admit shall enjoy and possess to them, their heirs, executors, administrators or assigns all profit whatsoever they in their particular adventure can make unto themselves by such discovery aforesaid, for fourteen years after the date of the said month of January, 1641, provided there be reserved and paid into his Majesty's use by them that shall be appointed to receive them, the fifth part of Royal Mines whatsoever; provided also, that if they shall think fit to employ more than two or three men in the said discovery they shall then do it by commission from the Governor of the Councill."*

It is well to preserve this the earliest known evidence of the desire of any man to hunt out the very country we now occupy.

The names of a portion of these first daring spirits, Austin, Johnson and Chiles, afterwards became familiar to our own country, and while no evidence is at hand to establish the fact, yet it is more than probable that these men by their efforts made possible the future success of Walker, Draper, Inglis, Wood, and others.

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*1 Hen. Stat., p. 262.

The record of the next effort to reach this portion of the wilderness by the enterprising citizens of Eastern Virginia is to be found in an act of the House of Burgesses of Virginia passed in July, 1653, more than a hundred years before a permanent settlement was effected on the waters of the Clinch or Holston rivers.

The Act is as follows. Passed July, 1653:

"Whereas, an act was made in the Assembly, 1642, for encouragement of discoveries to the westward and southward of this country, granting them all profits arising thereby for fourteen years, which act is since discontinued and made void, it is by this Assembly ordered that Colonel William Clayborne, Esq., and Captain Henry Fleet, they and their associates with them, either jointly or severally, may discover, and shall enjoy such benefits, profits and trades for fourteen years as they shall find out in places where no English ever have been and discovered, nor have had particular trade, and to take up such lands by patents proving their rights as they shall think good: nevertheless, not excluding others after their choice from taking up land and planting in these new discovered places, as in Virginia now versed. The like order is granted to Major Abram Wood and his associates."

The three gentlemen, William Clayborne, Henry Fleet and Abraham Wood, mentioned in this act, each represented a shire in the Virginia House of Burgesses, and were intent, no doubt, upon the acquisition of wealth and the development of the country.

We have no information that leads us to believe that any of the persons named in the preceding act, with the exception of Colonel Abraham Wood, at any time made an effort to accomplish the purpose of that act.

Dr. Hale, in his book entitled "Trans-Alleghany Pioneers," makes the following statement:

"The New river was first discovered and named in 1654 by Colonel Abraham Wood, who dwelt at the falls of the Appomattox, now the site of Petersburg, Va."

Being of an adventurous and speculative turn, he got from the Governor of Virginia a concession to explore the country and open up trade with the Indians to the west. There is no record as to the particular route he took, but as the line of adventure, exploration and discovery was then all east of the mountains, it is prob-

able that he first struck the river not far from the Blue Ridge and near the present Virginia and North Carolina lines."

I do not know from what source Dr. Hale obtained this information, and I give it for what it is worth.

It is reasonable to believe that Colonel Wood made this trip, and, to support this view, three circumstances may be mentioned. First. The House of Burgesses of Virginia had authorized Colonel Wood, along with others, in July of the preceding year, to discover a new river of unknown land where no English had ever been or discovered. Secondly. A gap in the Blue Ridge, lying between the headwaters of Smith river, a branch of the Dan, in Patrick county, and of Little river, a branch of New river, in Floyd county, is to this day called Wood's Gap. Thirdly. The present New river was known at first as Wood's river. It is known that at the time Thomas Batts and a company of men acting under the authority of Colonel Wood visited this section in the year 1671, Wood's Gap and New river had been previously visited and named by Colonel Wood.

In the year 1671, Thomas Batts and several other persons traveled from the falls of the Appomattox, the present site of Petersburg, Va., acting under a commission from Governor Berkley, to explore the country west of the Blue Ridge mountains and the South Sea.

It is worthy of notice that at the time this expedition was undertaken it was believed that the waters flowing westward beyond the Appalachian mountains emptied into the South Sea.

This was the first effort made to explore the country west of the Blue Ridge, of which any record has been preserved.

A journal of this expedition was made by Thomas Batts, one of the company. The first entry in this journal is as follows:

"A commission being granted the Hon. Maj. Gen. Wood for ye finding out of the ebbing and flowing of ye waters behind the mountains in order to the discovery of the South Sea: Thomas Batts, Thomas Wood, Robert Fallen, accompanied by Perachute, a great man of the Appomattox Indians, and Jack Nesan, formerly servant to Majr. Genl. Wood, with five horses, set forward from Appomattox town in Va., and about eight of the clock in the morning being Fryday Septr. 1st. 1671, and traveling about forty miles, took up their quarters and found they had traveled from Okene-

chee path due west: They traveled for twenty-five days, a part of the time through that portion of Virginia, near the present line between this State and North Carolina, but when they reached the foot of the Alleghany Mountains where the same merges into the Blue Ridge, now in Floyd Co. Va., they turned to the north west at a low place in the said mountain known as Wood's Gap; and after some time they came to a river which Genl. Wood had named Wood's River.* This river for many years thereafter was known as Wood's River, and many of the early patents in that section of the country describe the lands as located upon Wood's River." The entry in this diary of date the 16th of Sept. says: "About ten of the clock we set forward and, after we had traveled about ten miles, one of the Indians killed a deer; presently after they had a sight of a curious river like the Thames agt. Chilcey (Chelsea), which having a fall yt made a great noise, whose course was N. and so as they supposed, ran W. about certain pleasant mountains which they saw to the westward. At this point they took up their quarters, their course having been W. by N. At this point they found Indian fields with cornstalks in them. They marked the trees with the initials of the company, using branding irons, and made proclamation in these words: 'Long live King Charles ye 2nd. king of England, France, Scotland, Ireland and Virginia and all the terrytories thereunto belonging, defender of the faith.'

"When they came to ye river-side they found it better and broader than they expected, fully as broad as the Thames over agt, Maping, ye falls much like the falls of the James River in Va., and imagined by the water marks it flowed there about three feet. It was then ebbing water. They set up a stick by the water, but found it ebbed very slowly."

At this point their Indian guides stopped, and refused to go any farther, saying that there dwelt near this place a numerous and powerful tribe of Indians that made salt and sold it to the other tribes, and that no one who entered into their towns had ever been able to escape. Thereupon the trip was abandoned and they started on their return to their homes without having accomplished the object of the exploration, to-wit: the finding of the South Sea. But the journal adds that when they were on the top of the hill they took a prospect as far as they could see and saw westwardly

*Now New River.

over certain delightful hills a fog arise, and a glimmering light as from water, and supposed they might be from some great bog.

Many writers suppose that this exploring party, after reaching the New river, descended the same to the falls of the Kanawha, but it is more than probable that after they reached the river they ascended the same, and the stopping point mentioned in the diary was in Southwest Virginia, and near where the New river first enters Virginia.

Upon the return of this company to their homes Governor Berkley was very much interested in their report, but strange as it may seem to the reader, no further attempts were made by authority of the Government of Virginia for forty years to explore the country west of the mountains.

It will be seen from the journal of Thomas Batts that he and his associates, and, beyond a doubt, Colonel Abraham Wood anticipated, by more than half a century, Governor Spotswood and his Knights of the Golden Horse-Shoe, in the exploration and discovery of the country west of the Blue Ridge mountains.

The next effort made to explore the region west of the mountains, of which we have any account, occurred in 1716, forty-five years after the journey made by Thomas Batts, above described, and sixty years subsequent to the visit of Colonel Abraham Wood.

In the month of August, 1716, Governor Alexander Spotswood, with several members of his staff, left Williamsburg by coach and proceeded to Germania, where he left his coach and proceeded on horseback. At Germania this party was supplemented by a number of gentlemen, their retainers, a company of rangers, and four Meherrin Indians—about fifty persons in all.

They journeyed by way of the upper Rappahannock, and on the thirty-sixth day out, being September 5, 1716, they scaled the Blue Ridge at Swift Run Gap, now in Augusta county.

John Fontaine, a member of this company, has left a journal of this expedition, and therein thus describes what occurred when they reached the summit of the Blue Ridge: "We drank King George's health and all the royal family's at the very top of the Appalachian mountains."

The company then descended the western side of the mountain, and, reaching the Shenandoah river, they encamped upon its banks. Fontaine thus preserves an account of what occurred:

"The Governor had graving irons, but could not grave anything, the stones were so hard. I graved my name on a tree by the riverside, and the Governor burried a bottle with a paper enclosed on which he writ that he took possession of this place in the name and for King Geo. 1st. of England. We had a good dinner, and after it we got the men together, and loaded all their arms, and we drank the King's health in champaign and fired a volley, the Princess's health in Burgundy and fired a volley, and in claret and fired a volley. We drank the Governor's health and fired another volley. We had several sorts of liquers, viz. Virginia Red Wine and White Wine, Esquebaugh, brandy, shrub, rum, champaign, cavory, punch water, cider, etc.

"We called the highest mountain Mount George and the one we crossed over Mount Spotswood."

Governor Spotswood, from the fertility of the soil, gave the name of Euphrates to the river (now Shenandoah), and he believed the same emptied into the great lakes and flowed northward.

The Governor, upon his return to Williamsburg, instituted the Order of the Golden-Shoe, and presented to each of the gentlemen accompanying him a small horse-shoe made of gold inscribed with the motto: *Sic jurat transcendere montes,* "Thus he swears to cross the mountains."

Governor Spotswood, in a letter written in 1716, says: "The chief aim of my expedition over the great mountains in 1716 was to satisfy myself whether it was practicable to come to the lakes."

The country thus described was a part of Sussex county, the western boundary of which was undefined. Spotsylvania was formed from Sussex in 1720, Orange from Spotsylvania in 1734, all of said counties including the territory now within the bounds of this county.

All this information is necessary to a history of Washington county, because Washington county was formed from the territory we are now dealing with, and, for the better reason, that the promoters of our early settlements and the founders of our early government came from the Valley of Virginia.

In the year 1726, two men named Mackey and Sallings explored the Valley of Virginia.

John Peter Sallings, one of the two explorers of the valley

above mentioned, was captured by the Indians and passed through this immediate section as early as 1726.

Withers, in his history entitled "Border Warfare," thus describes the captivity of Sallings:

"Sallings," he says, "was taken to the country now known as Tennessee, where he remained for some years. In company with a party of Cherokees, he went on a hunting expedition to the salt licks of Kentucky and was there captured by a band of Illinois Indians, with whom the Cherokees were at war. He was taken to Kaskaskia, and adopted into the family of a squaw, whose son had been killed. While with these Indians he several times accompanied them down the Mississippi river, below the mouth of the Arkansas, and once to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Spaniards in Louisiana, desiring an interpreter, purchased him of his Indian mother, and some of them took him to Canada. He was there redeemed by the French Governor of that province, who sent him to the Dutch settlement in New York, whence he made his way home after an absence of six years.

The earliest visit to this section of Virginia by an Anglo-Saxon of which we have any record or knowledge was made by Dority, a citizen of Eastern Virginia, who in the year 1690 visited the Cherokee Indians in their home, south of the Little Tennessee, and traded with them. There can be no reasonable doubt that from a very early period, long preceding the making of a permanent settlement by the white man in this section, many of the citizens of Virginia living east of the mountains carried on, in many instances, an active trade with the Indians living south of the Little Tennessee and in Kentucky.

This section was uninhabitated by the Indians for many years previous to the explorations of the white man, and the wilderness was full of game of almost all kinds. Their flesh was valuable, and the skins and furs taken in one season by a single hunter would bring many hundreds of dollars, and thus many daring hunters were induced to visit this section long before any white man thought of settling the lands.

In confirmation of this idea Mr. Vaughan, of Amelia county, Va., who died in the year 1801, was employed about the year 1740 to go as a packman with a number of Indian traders to the Cherokee nation.

The last hunter's cabin he saw as he traveled from Amelia county, Va., to East Tennessee was on Otter river, a branch of Staunton river, now in Bedford county. The route he traveled was an old trading path following closely the location of the Buckingham road to a point where it strikes the Stage Road in Botetourt county; thence nearly upon the ground which the Stage Road occupies, crossing New River at Inglis' Ferry; thence to Seven Mile Ford on the Holston; thence to the left of the road which formed the old Stage Road; thence on to the North Fork of Holston, above Long Island in Tennessee, crossing it where the Stage Road formerly crossed it, and on into the heart of Tennessee.

This hunter's trail, or Indian trace, was an old path when he first saw it, and he continued to travel the same until 1754, trading with the Indians.

In the year 1730, John and Isaac Van Meter obtained from Governor Gooch, of Virginia, a patent for forty thousand acres of land to be located in the lower valley, and this warrant was sold in 1731 to Joist Hite, of Pennsylvania, who, in 1732, brought his family and sixteen other families and located a few miles south of the present site of Winchester, Va., and this is generally believed to be the first settlement by a white man west of the Blue Ridge.

Emigration to this new land was rapid, and soon reached beyond the confines of Hite's possessions.

About the time of the Hite settlement John Lewis, Peter Sallings and ——— Mackey made settlements in the valley. Lewis settled on Lewis' creek near the present site of Staunton, Sallings, at the forks of James river and Mackey, at Buffalo Gap.

Within less than one year the population of the country near the settlement made by Lewis was considerable, so rapid was the migration to the new land.

The early settlers in this portion of Virginia had to contend with titles obtained by individuals and companies for large tracts of land, and such grantees were usually favorites of the King or of the King's councillors.

On the 6th of September, 1736, William Gooch, Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, issued a patent for the "Manor of Beverly," covering one hundred and eighteen thousand and ninety-one acres of land lying in the county of Orange between the great mountains

and on the River Sherando, and on September 7, 1736, William Beverly, of Essex, became the owner of the entire grant.

This patent covered most of the fine lands in the Valley of Virginia near Staunton and Waynesboro, and soon thereafter Governor Gooch granted Benjamin Borden five hundred thousand acres of land situated south of Beverly Manor and on the waters of the James and Shenandoah rivers.

Each of the grants above described was to become absolute, provided the patentees succeeded in settling a given number of families thereon in the time named in the grant, and as a result the patentees, Hite, Beverly and Borden, solicited and obtained settlers from America and Europe.

Benjamin Borden, upon the receipt of his grant, immediately visited England, and in 1737 returned with a hundred families, among whom were the McDowells, Crawfords, McClures, Alexanders, Walkers, Moores, Matthews and many others, the founders of many of Virginia's distinguished families.

In 1738, the counties of Frederick and Augusta were formed out of Orange. The territories embraced within these two counties included all of Virginia west of the Blue Ridge and was, almost without exception, a howling wilderness occupied by the Indians and wild beasts. It is evident from the statement contained in the act establishing Augusta county that there had been a rapid and considerable increase of the population in the valley.

The act establishing the county of Augusta provided that the organization of the county should take place when the Governor and Council should think there was a sufficient number of inhabitants for appointing justices of the peace and other officers and creating courts therein.

While the act establishing Augusta county was passed in 1738, the county was not organized until 1745. The first court assembled at Staunton on December 9, 1745, at which time the following magistrates were sworn in, having been previously commissioned by the Governor of Virginia—viz.: James Patton, John Buchanan, George Robinson, James Bell, Robert Campbell, John Lewis, John Brown, Peter Scholl, Robert Poage, John Findley, Richard Woods, John Christian, Robert Craven, John Pickens, Andrew Pickens, Thomas Lewis, Hugh Thompson, John Anderson, Robert Cunningham, James Kerr and Adam Dickenson.

James Patton was commissioned high sheriff, John Madison, clerk, and Thomas Lewis, surveyor of the county.

It is worthy of note that James Patton, the first sheriff of Augusta county. was the first man to survey and locate lands within the boundaries of Washington county as originally formed, and the land by him acquired composed a considerable part of the best lands within this county.

The idea of offering the dissenters from the Church of England inducements to settle the lands west of the mountains had often been suggested and earnestly advocated by many of the prominent men in the Virginia Colony, but no move in that direction was taken until about the time of the first settlement of the lower Valley, at and after which time the Governor and Council of Virginia, with but little hesitancy, permitted the erection of dissenting churches in the Valley, and encouraged the immigration of settlers whenever possible.

The result of this action was a flood of settlers, emigrants from Scotland and Ireland, who came by way of Pennsylvania, mostly Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in belief. They passed into and settled in the Valley, and in a few years the Valley from Harper's Ferry to New river was populated with a progressive, liberty-loving people second to none on earth.

Colonel James Patton, who came from the north of Ireland in 1736, was one of the first and most influential settlers of the Valley of Virginia.

In the year 1745, he secured a grant from the Governor and Council of Virginia, for one hundred and twenty thousand acres of land west of the Blue Ridge, and he and his son-in-law, John Buchanan, who was also deputy surveyor of Augusta county, located lands on the James river, and founded and named Buchanan and Pattonsburg, villages that were built on the opposite sides of the James river, now in Botetourt county.

In the year 1748, Dr. Thomas Walker, who afterwards, on the 29th day of September, 1752, qualified as a deputy surveyor of Augusta county; Colonel James Patton, Colonel John Buchanan, Colonel James Wood and Major Charles Campbell, accompanied by a number of hunters, John Findlay being of the number, explored Southwest Virginia and East Tennessee, and located and

surveyed a number of very valuable tracts of land by authority of the grant to Colonel James Patton.

We give below a list of the first surveys made on the waters of the Holston and Clinch rivers.

This information is derived from the surveyor's records of Augusta county at Staunton, Va. Each of the above surveys is signed by Thomas Lewis, surveyor of Augusta county, and in the left-hand corner of the plot, recorded with each survey, are written the letters J. B., the initials of John Buchanan, deputy surveyor of the county.

It is evident from this record that John Buchanan surveyed the several tracts of land first located in Washington county, and that he was on the waters of the Indian or Holston river surveying as early as the 14th day of March, 1746.

It will be observed from an inspection of this list of surveys that on April 2, 1750, there was surveyed for Edmund Pendleton 3,000 acres of land lying on West creek, a branch of the South Fork of Indian river, which tract of land now lies in Sullivan county, Tennessee.

This tract was patented to Edmund Pendleton in 1756 upon the idea that the Virginia line, when run, would embrace these lands.

It is worthy of note that these early explorers and the many hunters and traders who had previously visited this section called the Holston river the Indian river, while the Indians gave it the name of Hogoheegee, and the French gave it the name of the Cherokee river.

All of the lands surveyed in this county previously to 1748 are described in the surveys as being on the waters of the Indian river. These explorers returned to their homes delighted, no doubt, with the excellent lands they had visited, but nothing resulted from their efforts save the acquisition of a knowledge of the country.

At the time Dr. Walker and his associates made their trip of exploration above described they were followed as far as New river by Thomas Inglis and his three sons, Mrs. Draper and her son and daughter, Adam Harman, Henry Leonard and James Burke, pioneers in search of a home in the wilderness. Lands were surveyed for each of them, which lands are described in the respective surveys as being on Wood's river, or the waters of Wood's river. Here

Date.	Name.	Location.	Local Name.	Acres.
Mar. 19, 1748.....	James Davis	Head Branch Indian River	Davis' Fancy	1,300
Nov. 16, 1746.....	James Patton	N. W. side Indian R., Mouth Cedar Run.	.....	640
Mar. 14, 1746.....	James Patton	Waters South Fork Indian River.....	Crab Apple Orchard	770
Mar. 14, 1746.....	James Patton	Middle Fork Indian River	Kilmackronan	2,600
Mar. 29, 1750.....	Thomas Walker	Castles Creek, Branch Indian River	Burk's Garden	6,780
Mar. 26, 1747.....	James Wood	Holston or Cedar Creek	.....	2,193
Mar. 24, 1749.....	James Wood	Holston or Cedar Creek	.....	2,800
Dec. 19, 1750.....	John Shelton	Mockizen Creek, Branch Indian River..	.....	1,400
Mar. 15, 1748.....	John Shelton	Indian River	.....	995
Oct. 16, 1750.....	John Shelton	Branch Clinch River	.....	1,000
Oct. 14, 1750.....	John Shelton	Crabapple Orchard, Waters Clinch R. ...	.....	650
Oct. 2, 1748.....	John Shelton	Middle Fork Indian River	.....	940
Oct. 17, 1748.....	John Shelton	South Side North Fork Indian River ...	.....	150
Jan. 15, 1751.....	Jos. and Esther Crockett ..	Head South Fork Indian River	.....	450
Mar. 14, 1748.....	Charles St. Clair	South Fork Holston River	.....	996
April 2, 1750.....	Edmund Pendleton	Branch Indian River	.....	950
April 2, 1750.....	Edmund Pendleton	Branch Indian River	Renfro's Creek	676
April 6, 1750.....	Edmund Pendleton	Middle Fork Indian River	Shallow Creek	3,000
Feb. 22, 1749.....	John Taylor	Waters Indian River	Sapling Grove	1,946
Feb. 23, 1749.....	John Taylor	Shallow Creek	Timber Grove	1,000
Mar. 19, 1749.....	John Taylor	Shallow Creek	Forks	720
Feb. 19, 1749.....	John Taylor	Middle Fork Indian River	.....	1,150
Dec. 31, 1748.....	Chas. Campbell	North Fork Indian River	Campbell's Choice	1,400
Dec. 12, 1748.....	Chas. Campbell	Branch of North Fork	Buffalo Lick	330
Nov. 24, 1747.....	John Buchanan	Indian River	Wasp Bottom	1,000
Nov. 21, 1747.....	John Buchanan	Indian River	Richland	550
Oct. 14, 1747.....	John Buchanan	Middle Fork Indian River	Royal Oak	740
Nov. 10, 1748.....	John Buchanan	Middle Fork Indian River	Holly Bottom	1,250
Mar. 15, 1748.....	Chas. Campbell	Indian River	Gooseberry Garden	130
Mar. 21, 1749.....	Chas. Campbell	Middle Branch Indian River	Buffalo Bottom	220
Mar. 23, 1749.....	Chas. Campbell	Middle Branch Indian River	Papau Bottom	300
Oct. 23, 1750.....	Chas. Campbell	Middle Branch Indian River	Indian Camp	135

they made a settlement, the first west of the Alleghany divide and the first on Wood's or New river.

The name given to this new settlement was "Draper's Meadows."

The surveys, with accompanying plats for these, the first settlers on any of the waters flowing into the Mississippi, are exceedingly interesting and instructive.

These first settlers were immediately followed by a large number of other persons.

The Alleghany mountains having been crossed and the waters flowing into the Mississippi reached, the pioneer rapidly sought to bring the wilderness under his dominion. The first company of settlers at Draper's Meadows were at once increased by new arrivals, and numerous tracts of land west of New river and near what were afterwards known as the Lead Mines occupied. Among the early settlers in that section of Southwest Virginia were the Crocketts, Sayers, Cloyds, McGavocks and McCalls.

James Burke, with his family, settled in 1753 in what has since been known as Burk's Garden, and Charles Sinclair in Sinclair's Bottom. Stephen Holston built his cabin within thirty feet of the head spring of the Middle Fork of Indian, since called Holston river, some time previous to 1748, and thus Burke, Sinclair and Holston gave names to the localities of their early settlements.

A colony of people called "Dunkards" settled on the west side of New river near Inglis' Ferry, and in the year 1750 Samuel Stalnaker, with the assistance of Dr. Walker and his associates, erected his cabin on the Holston nine miles west of Stephen Holston's cabin.

It is worthy of mention in this place that in this year, 1749, the commissioners appointed by the Legislatures of Virginia and North Carolina continued the boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina to a point on Steep Rock Creek,* in this county.

Dr. Walker and his associates had met Samuel Stalnaker on the waters of the Holston in April, 1748, between the Reedy Creek settlement and the Holston river, at which time it is evident, from a journal kept by Dr. Walker, that Stalnaker told Walker and his associates of the Cumberland Gap, and made an engagement with Dr. Walker to pilot him upon a trip to Kentucky at a subsequent date.

The French had established settlements on the waters of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and claimed, by right of discovery and occupancy, as territory belonging to the French crown, all the lands west of the Alleghany mountains, and were actively asserting their right to all of this territory at all times and by every possible means. It is claimed that the French had established a fort near the Broad Ford of the Tennessee river, and had opened and operated mines in the territory now included in Eastern Kentucky; and it is well known that the French traders were to be found in nearly all of the Indian villages east of the Mississippi river and west of the Alleghany mountains.

The English Government and the American Colonies denied the pretensions of the French crown, and looked with jealousy upon every movement made by France in the direction of the accomplishment of her claim.

As a result, on the 12th day of July, 1749, the Governor and Council of Virginia granted to the "Ohio Company" 500,000 acres of land, to be surveyed and located south of the Ohio river, and to forty-six gentlemen, styling themselves the "Loyal Company," leave to take up and survey 800,000 acres of land in one or more surveys, beginning on the bounds between this State and North Carolina and running to the westward and to the north seas to include the said quantity, with four years' time to locate said land and make return of surveys.

The "Ohio Company" employed Christopher Gist, one of the most noted surveyors of that time, to go, as soon as possible, to the westward of the Great Mountains, and to carry with him such a number of men as he thought necessary, in order to search out and discover the lands upon the river Ohio and other adjoining branches of the Mississippi, down as low as the Great Falls thereof, now Louisville, Kentucky.

He was also directed to observe the passes through the mountains, to take an exact account of the soil and products of the lands, the width and depth of the rivers, the falls belonging to them, the course and bearings of the rivers and mountains, and to ascertain what Indians inhabitated them, with their strength and numbers.

Pursuant to his instructions, he set out from the old town on the Potomac river, in Maryland, in October, 1750, and spent many days on the lands south of the Ohio river, in the present State

of Kentucky; he finally came to the Cumberland mountains at Pound Gap, at which gap he crossed and passed down Gist's river to Powell's and Clinch valleys. On Tuesday, the 7th day of May, 1751, he came to New river and crossed the same about eight miles above the mouth of Bluestone river. On Saturday, the 11th, he came to a very high mountain, upon the top of which was a lake or pond about three-fourths of a mile long northeast and southwest, and one-fourth of a mile wide, the water fresh and clear, its borders a clean gravelly shore about ten yards wide, and a fine meadow with six fine springs in it.

From this description it is evident that Gist visited Salt Lake mountain, in Giles county, Va., as early as 1751, and found the lake as it now is.

It is evident from this journal that the traditions that we so often hear repeated about this lake are nothing more than mythical, and that this lake existed as it now is at the time of the earliest explorations of the white man. Colonel Gist then passed south about four miles to Sinking Creek and on to the settlements.

In the meantime the "Loyal Company" were not idle, but, having employed Dr. Thomas Walker for a certain consideration, sent him on the 12th day of December, 1749, in company with Ambrose Powell, William Tomlinson, Henry Lawless and John Hughes, to the westward in order to discover a proper place for a settlement. A journal of this trip will be found in the Appendix to this work, and the reader will find a perusal of this journal exceedingly interesting, as Dr. Walker and his associates passed directly through what might reasonably be termed the centre of Washington county.

It will be necessary, in speaking of this journal of Dr. Walker's, to call the reader's attention to only a few incidents connected with the trip, which we will do as briefly as possible.

On March 15, 1750, they came to the "Great Lick," now the present site of the city of Roanoke, Va., at which place they bought corn of Michael Campbell for their horses, at which time Dr. Walker remarks: "This Lick has been one of the best places for game in these parts, and would have been of much greater advantage to the inhabitants than it has been if the hunters had not killed the buffaloes for diversion and the elks and deer for

It has been the prevailing opinion that there were no buffaloes east of the Blue Ridge, and while the Great Lick, or Roanoke City, is west of the Blue Ridge, it is altogether probable that buffaloes in their range did oftentimes travel beyond the mountains; at any rate it is known that Colonel Byrd killed buffaloes in 1729 on the boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina and south of Roanoke.

They thence went up the Staunton river, now called the Little Roanoke river, to William Inglis'. Dr. Walker, at this point, notes the fact that William Inglis had a mill which is the furthest back, except one lately built by the sect of people who called themselves of the Brotherhood of Euphrates, or "Duncards," who are the upper inhabitants of the New river and lived on the west side of the same.

It is well to note at this point that the present village of Blacksburg is near the locality occupied by William Inglis in 1750. The Dunkards spoken of by Dr. Walker lived on the west side of New river opposite Inglis' Ferry, several miles above the crossing of the Norfolk and Western railroad. Their next stopping point was on a small run between Peak Creek and Reed Creek, or between Pulaski city and Max Meadows of the present day. They next camped near James McCall's on Reed Creek, and on the 22d of March they reached a large spring about five miles below Davis' Bottom, on the Middle Fork of Holston river, where they camped; they moved thence down the Middle Fork of Holston, where they again camped, and Ambrose Powell and Dr. Walker went to look for Samuel Stalnaker and found his camp, he having just moved out to settle. They assisted Stalnaker in building his house, and spent the Sabbath about one-half a mile below him. On Monday, the 26th, they left the frontiers of civilization, Stalnaker's settlement being the farthest west at that time. Their trip was not eventful until the 30th, on which day they caught two young buffaloes, and on the 31st they traveled down the Reedy creek to the Holston river at the foot of Long Island, where they measured an elm tree twenty-five feet in circumference three feet from the ground. They crossed the North Fork of the Holston about one-half a mile above the junction of the North and South Fork rivers at a ford. At this point they discovered evidences of Indians. They found, in the fork between the North and South Forks of Holston

river, five Indian houses built with logs and covered with bark, around which there were an abundance of bones and many pieces of mats and cloth. On the west side of the North Fork of Holston river they found four Indian houses, and four miles southwest of the junction of the North and South Forks of Holston river they discovered an Indian fort on the south side of the main Holston river.

On April 2d they left the Holston river and traveled in a northwest direction toward Cumberland Gap, passing over Clinch mountain at Loony's Gap, it is thought. They reached the Clinch river above the present location of Sneedsville, in Hancock county, Tennessee, and on the 12th day of April they reached Powell's river, ten miles from Cumberland Gap. It is well to note at this point that Ambrose Powell, one of Dr. Walker's companions, cut his name upon a tree on the bank of this river, which name and tree were found in the year 1770 by a party of fifteen or twenty Virginians on their way to Kentucky on a hunting expedition, from which circumstance the Virginia Long Hunters gave it the name of Powell's river, which name it still retains. On the 13th they reached Cumberland Gap, which gap Dr. Walker afterwards named Cumberland Gap in honor of the Duke of Cumberland, the son of George II, and the commander of the English forces, on the 16th of April, 1746, at Culloden, where he defeated, with great slaughter, the Highland forces, refusing quarter to the wounded prisoners.

On the 17th of April he reached the Cumberland river and named it at that time. On the 23d a part of this company was left to build a house and plant some peach stones and corn. On the 28th Dr. Walker returned to his company and found that they had built a house 12x8 feet, cleared and broken up some ground and planted corn and peach stones.

This was the first house built by an Anglo-Saxon in the State of Kentucky, and it was used and occupied as late as 1835. The location of this house is on the farm of George M. Faulkner, about four miles below Barboursville, Ky. They thence traveled in a northeast direction, crossing Kentucky river and New river and striking the waters of the Greenbrier, and on the 13th day of July Dr. Walker reached his home. On this journey they killed thirteen buffaloes, eight elks, fifty-three bears, twenty deer, four

wild geese and about a hundred and fifty turkeys, and could have killed three times as much meat if they had wanted it.

It is to be recollected that this trip and the building of the cabin in the wilderness of Kentucky was all in the interest of the "Loyal Company."

About this time the "Ohio Company" entered a caveat against the "Loyal Company," and the Loyal Company got into a dispute with Colonel James Patton, who had an unfinished grant below where this company were to begin, and no further progress was made by the company until June 14, 1753.

In the year 1748, Mr. Gray, Mr. Ashford Hughes and others obtained a grant from the Governor and Council for 10,000 acres of land lying on the waters of the New river, which grant was soon afterwards assigned to Peter Jefferson (father of Thomas Jefferson), Dr. Thomas Walker, Thomas Merriweather and David Merriweather, which lands were surveyed and principally settled in the early days of the settlement of this section.

About the same time the Governor and the Council of Virginia granted to John Lewis, of Augusta, and his associates 100,000 acres of land to be located on the Greenbrier river, and thus the English Government sought to displace the French in their efforts to settle and hold the lands west of the Alleghany mountains.

On the other hand, the movements of the English were closely watched by the French, who were equally determined to defeat them in their aspirations. A company of French soldiers in 1752 were sent south as far as the Miami river to notify the English traders among the Indians to leave the country, which they refused to do, and thereupon a fight ensued between the French and Indians, in which fourteen Miami Indians were killed and four white prisoners were taken, and thus began the contest which resulted in the loss to France of all her possessions in Canada and east of the Mississippi river.

In April of the year 1749, the house of Adam Harmon, one of the first settlers near Inglis' Ferry, on New river, was visited by the Indians, and his furs and skins stolen.

*This was the first Indian depredation committed on the white settlers west of the Alleghany mountains.

In the month of November, 1753, the House of Burgesses of

*Dr. Hale's "Trans-Alleghany Pioneers.

Virginia passed an act for the further encouraging of persons to settle on the waters of the Mississippi, which act we here copy in full:

1. Whereas, it will be the means of cultivating a better correspondence with the neighboring Indians if a farther encouragement be given to persons who have settled on the waters of the Mississippi, in the county of Augusta; and, whereas, a considerable number of persons, as well his majesty's natural born subjects as foreign Protestants, are willing to come into this Colony with their families and effects and settle upon the lands near the said waters in case they can have encouragement for so doing; and, whereas, the settling of that part of the country will add to the security and strength of the Colony in general and be a means of augmenting his majesty's revenue of quit rents;

2. Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Burgesses of this present General Assembly, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That all persons being Protestants who have already settled or shall hereafter settle and reside on any lands situated to the westward of the ridge of mountains that divide the rivers Roanoke, James and Potowmack, from the Mississippi in the county of Augusta, shall be and are exempted and discharged from the payment of all public county and parish levies for the term of fifteen years next following, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding.*

The English Government were exceedingly anxious to encourage the settlements on the waters of the Mississippi and thereby strengthen their frontiers and fortify their claim to the lands lying west of the Alleghany mountains, and, in keeping with this desire, the Governor and Council of Virginia, on June 14, 1753, renewed the grant to the "Loyal Company" and allowed them four years' farther time to complete the surveying and seating of said land, and on the 6th day of July following Dr. Thomas Walker, their agent, proceeded with all convenient speed to survey said land and to sell the same to purchasers at three pounds per hundred acres, exclusive of fees and rights. The basis of the operations of Dr. Walker was in Southwest Virginia, and by the end of the year 1754 he had surveyed and sold 224 separate tracts of land containing 45,249 acres, which surveys were made in the name of the several pur-

*Hen. S., p. 356.

chasers from him, and many of the said tracts of land were actually occupied by settlers.

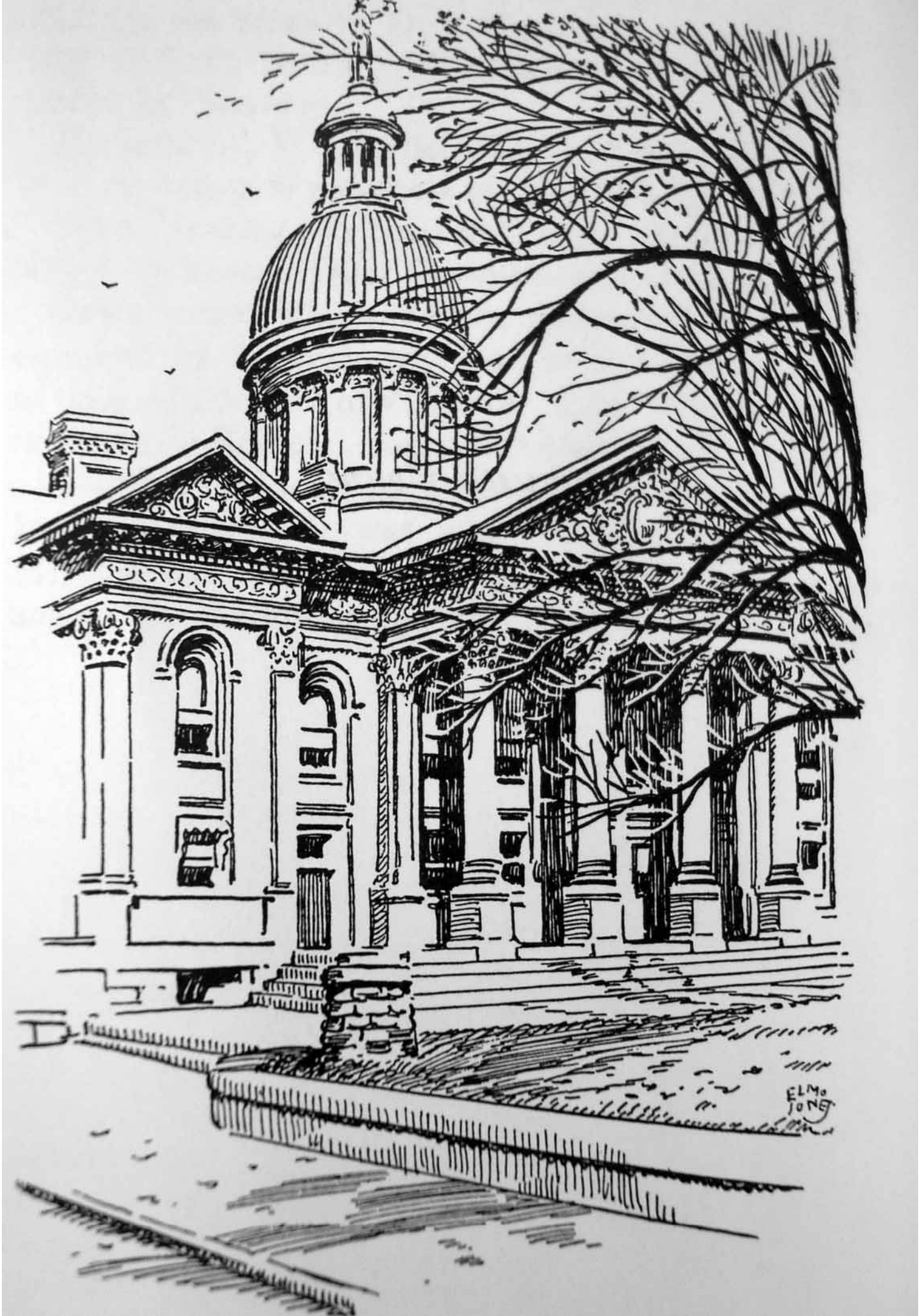
During this time James Patton was actively at work surveying and selling lands to settlers under his grant from the Governor and Council, and the tide of emigration was fast settling towards Southwest Virginia, when the French-Indian war of 1754-1763 came on, which war began in all its fury about this time, and thereby Dr. Walker, agent for the "Loyal Company," and James Patton and others were prevented, for the time being, from further prosecuting their enterprises in surveying and settling this portion of Virginia.

In the spring of 1754, numbers of families were obliged, by an Indian invasion, to remove from their settlements in Southwest Virginia, and these removals continued during the entire war. It will be well here to note the fact that the lands held by Stephen Holston, James McCall, Charles Sinclair and James Burke, the earlier settlers of this portion of Virginia, were held by them under what were known at that time as "corn rights—that is, under the law as it then stood, each settler acquired title to a hundred acres for every acre planted by him in corn, but subsequent settlers, as a general rule, held their lands under one of the above-mentioned grants. Stephen Holston, who settled at the head spring of the Middle Fork of Holston some time prior to 1748, did not remain long at this place, but sold his right to James Davis, who, on the 19th of March, 1748, had John Buchanan, deputy surveyor of Augusta county, to survey for him at this point a tract of land containing 1,300 acres, to which he gave the name of "Davis' Fancy," and the descendants of James Davis occupy a portion of this land to this day.

Stephen Holston, when he had disposed of his rights to Davis, constructed canoes, passed down the Holston, Tennessee and Mississippi rivers to Natchez, Mississippi, and thence returned to Virginia, and settled in Culpeper county, where he lived in 1754; afterwards, in 1757, he was captured by the Indians, but, making his escape, he returned to the waters of the Holston, and served under Colonel Christian upon the expedition to Point Pleasant in 1774, and in the expedition against the Cherokees in 1776. Many of his descendants are to be found in East Tennessee at this time.

At the beginning of the year 1753 two families resided on Back creek; James Reed, at Dublin, Va. (from whom Reed creek de-

Augusta County


ELMO
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Augusta County

AUGUSTA COUNTY was indeed the spearhead in the advance of Virginia civilization to the West. Not only did it lie immediately in the path of that advance, but Augusta County for a number of years included within its own boundaries all of Kentucky and the Northwest Territory. Maps of Augusta drawn in that period showed the regions which now are West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and the western part of Pennsylvania, and the Great Lakes were on its border.

In Augusta County the tide of migration from the Chesapeake Bay country met its first counter-current, for already the Scotch-Irish had come into this area after brief sojourns in Pennsylvania, and had gained considerable foothold before the county became a county and before settlers came in from Eastern Virginia to help furnish population for enormous land grants from the Colonial Governors to wealthy citizens of their acquaintance.

The first settler in Augusta was John Lewis, a remarkable man of whom more will be said later. He came in 1732. By 1738 so many settlers had come in from Virginia east of the mountains, from Pennsylvania and from Europe that the General Assembly set

aside Augusta as a county and gave it a name. But it was not until 1745 that there was set up a government for it.

The story of Augusta's settlement is as interesting as its subsequent history. Here were amalgamated several sets of hardy people who were to play an enormous part in pushing back the frontiers, beating back the French, the Indians and finally the British, and many were the families from Augusta whose descendants are scattered from the Alleghany Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

In 1730 the Governor of Virginia granted 40,000 acres in the Valley of Virginia to a man named Isaac Vanmeter. In 1732 Joist Hite with a party of pioneers came up the valley of the Shenandoah to settle upon this grant, and with them came John Lewis, who settled and built his home about a mile east of the present city of Staunton. In 1733 the Governor issued a patent for 5,000 acres to a German named Stover further down the Valley, and in 1736 he granted William Beverley, of Essex, Sir John Randolph, of the City of Williamsburg, Richard Randolph, of Henrico, and John Robinson, of King and Queen, 118,491 acres, which included the site of Staunton and was known as Beverley Manor, the name still being retained in the modern magisterial district which was a part of it. The other grantees relinquished their interests to Beverley the day after the patent was granted.

To carry still further the picture of the land grants which had so much to do with the settlement of Augusta County, an Englishman named Benjamin Burden, who had come to America as an agent of Lord Fairfax,

was granted 500,000 acres by Governor Gooch, which property extended from the southern line of Beverley Manor southward and included a large part of Augusta and Rockbridge Counties. The condition of Burden's grant was that he was to settle 100 families upon the land within ten years, and this he had accomplished in the year 1737.

In the meantime Lord Fairfax, under patent of James II, held all that part of Virginia known as the Northern Neck, and he claimed for his western boundary a line from the head of the Rappahannock, believed to have been in the Blue Ridge, to the head of the Potomac, believed to have been in the Alleghanies. Thus he claimed the lower Shenandoah Valley and, as a result, the upper, or southern, part of the Valley of Virginia was populated more rapidly than the lower, the settlers fearing complications in land titles.

Vigorous efforts were made by all of these grantees of land to induce settlement, and because of the exceptional beauty and fertility of the country, which had been glowingly described by Governor Spotswood and his gentlemen when they first visited the Valley in 1716, there was rapid migration to this beautiful area. With this brief resumé of the principal land grants as a background, the story of Augusta County may be told in detail.

John Lewis, a truly remarkable man from the North of Ireland, may very properly be called the Father of Augusta County. Not only was he its first settler, coming to the county in 1732 with his wife and four of his five sons, all of whom were distinguished officers in the French and Indian War and the Revolution, but his

wisdom and personal influence had much to do with shaping the destiny of the little colony west of the Blue Ridge. He had to flee from Ireland because of his manly resistance to tyranny, made his way to Pennsylvania and there for a number of months awaited his family. They joined him in 1732 and he made his way to Augusta.

John Lewis and his descendants have played so large a part in the history of his County, State and Nation, and the story of the affair which sent him from Ireland to America is so thrilling that it should be inserted here. The following account is from the *Virginia Historical Register* for 1851 and was written by John H. Peyton from information derived orally from William I. Lewis, of Campbell County, member of Congress in 1817 and a grandson of John Lewis. He, in turn, had received it from his father, Colonel William Lewis, of Sweet Springs, who died in 1812 at the age of eighty-five:

"John Lewis was a native of Ireland, and was descended from French Protestants who emigrated from France to Ireland in 1685, at the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, to avoid the persecutions to which the Protestants, to which sect of religion they belonged, were subjected during the reign of Louis XIV. John Lewis intermarried with Margaret Lynn, also a native of Ireland, but descended of Scottish ancestors—the Lynns, of Loch Lynn, so famous in Scottish clan legends.

"John Lewis, in Ireland, occupied a respectable position in what is there called the middle class of society. He was the holder of a free-hold lease for three lives upon a valuable farm in the County of Donegal and Province of Ulster, obtained upon equal terms and fair equivalents from one of the Irish nobility, who was an upright and honorable man, and the owner of the reversion. This lease-hold estate, with his wife's marriage portion, enabled the young couple to

commence life with flattering prospects. They were both remarkable for their industry, piety and stern integrity. They prospered and were happy. Before the catastrophe occurred which completely destroyed the hope of this once happy family in Ireland and made them exiles from their native land, their affection was cemented by the birth of four sons, Samuel, Thomas, Andrew and William.

"About the period of the birth of their third son, the Lord from whom he had obtained his lease—a landlord beloved by his tenants and neighbors—suddenly died, and his estates descended to his eldest son, a youth whose principles were directly the reverse of his father's. He was proud, profligate and extravagant. Anticipating his income, he was always in debt, and to meet his numerous engagements he devised a variety of schemes, and among them one was to claim of his tenants a forfeiture of their leases upon some one of the numerous covenants in instruments of the kind at that day. If they agreed to increase their rents, the alleged forfeiture was waived; if they refused, they were threatened with a long, tedious lawsuit. Many of his tenants submitted to this injustice rather than be involved, even with justice on their side, in a legal controversy with a rich and powerful adversary, who could, in this country, under these circumstances, devise ways and means to harass, persecute and impoverish one in moderate circumstances.

"Lewis, however, was a different man from any who thus tamely submitted to wrong. By industry and skill he had greatly improved his property, his rent had been punctually paid, and all the covenants of his lease had been complied with faithfully. To him, after seeing all the others, the agent of the young Lord came with his unjust demands. Lewis peremptorily dismissed him from his presence, and determined to make an effort to rescue his family from this threatened injustice by a personal interview with the young Lord, who, Lewis imagined, would scarcely have the hardihood to insist before his face upon the iniquitous terms proposed by his agent. Accordingly, he visited the castle of the young Lord. A porter announced his name. At the time the young Lord was engaged in his revels over the bottle with some of his companions with similar tastes and habits.

"As soon as the name of Lewis was announced, he recognized the only one of his tenants who had resisted his demands, and directed

the porter to order him off. When the porter delivered his Lord's order, Lewis resolved at every hazard to see him. Accordingly he walked into the presence of the company—the porter not having the temerity to stand in his way. Flushed with wine, the whole company rose to resent the insult and repel the intruder from the room. But there was something in Lewis' manner that sobered them in a moment, and, instead of advancing, they seemed fixed to their places, and for a moment there was perfect silence, when Lewis calmly observed:

"'I came here with no design to insult or injure any one, but to remonstrate in person to your Lordship against threatened injustice, and thus to avert from my family ruin; in such a course I have not regarded ordinary forms or ceremonies, and I warn you, gentlemen, to be cautious how you deal with a desperate man.' This address, connected with the firm and intrepid tone of its delivery apparently stupefied the company. Silence ensuing, Lewis embraced it to address himself particularly, in the following words, to the young Lord:

"'Your much respected father granted me the lease-hold estate I now possess. I have regularly paid my rents, and have faithfully complied with all the covenants of the lease. I have a wife and three infant children whose happiness, comfort and support depends, in great degree upon the enjoyment of this property, and yet I am told by your agent that I can no longer hold it without a base surrender of my rights to your rapacity. Sir, I wish to learn from your own lips whether or not you really meditate such injustice, such cruelty as the terms mentioned by your agent indicate; and I beg you before pursuing such a course to reconsider this matter coolly and dispassionately, or you will ruin me and disgrace yourself.'

"By the time this address was closed, the young Lord seemed to have recovered partially (in which he was greatly assisted by several heavy libations of wine) from the effects produced by the sudden, solemn and impressive manner of his injured tenant. He began to ejaculate:

"'Leave me! Leave me! You rebel! You villain!' To this abuse Lewis replied calmly as follows:

"'Sir, you may save yourself this useless ebullition of passion. It is extremely silly and ridiculous. I have effected the object of my

visit; I have satisfied my mind, and have nothing more to say. I shall no longer disturb you with my presence.'

"Upon which he retired from the room, apparently unmoved by the volley of abuse that broke forth from the young Lord and his drunken comrades as soon as he had turned his back. After they had recovered from the magical effect which the calm resolution and stern countenance of Lewis produced, they descanted upon what they called the insolence of his manner and the mock defiance of his speech, with all the false views which aristocratic pride excited by the fumes of wine, in a monarchial government were so well calculated to inspire. During the evening the rash purpose was formed of dispossessing Lewis by force.

"Accordingly, the next day the young Lord, without any legal authority whatever, proceeded at the head of his guests and domestics to oust Lewis by force. Lewis saw the approach of the hostile army and conjectured the object of the demonstration. He had no arms but a shelalah, a weapon in possession of every Irish farmer of that period. Nor was there anyone at his house but a brother, confined to bed by disease, his wife and three infant children; yet he resolved to resist the lawless band and closed the door. The young Lord, on reaching the house, demanded admittance, which not being granted, the posse attacked the house, and after being foiled in several attempts to break down the door or to effect in any other way an entrance, one of the party introduced the muzzle of a musket through an aperture in the wall and discharged its contents—a bullet and three buckshot—upon those within, Lewis' sick brother was mortally wounded, and one of the shot passed through his wife's hand.

"Lewis, who had up to this time acted on the defensive, seeing the blood stream from the hand of his wife and his expiring brother weltering in his blood, became enraged, furious, and, siezing his shelalah, he rushed from the cottage, determined to avenge the wrong and to sell his life as dearly as possible.

"The first person he encountered was the young Lord, whom he despatched at a single blow, cleaving in twain his skull and scattering his brains upon himself and the posse. The next person he met was the steward, who shared the fate of his master. Rushing, then, upon the posse, stupefied at the ungovernable ardor and fury of Lewis'

manner, and the death of two of their party, they had scarcely time to save themselves, as they did, by throwing away their arms and taking to flight.

"This awful occurrence brought the affairs of Lewis in Ireland to a crisis. Though he had violated no law, human or divine; though he had acted strictly in self defense against lawless power and oppression, yet the occurrence took place in a monarchial government, whose policy it is to preserve a difference in the ranks of society. One of the nobility (Sir Mungo Campbell) had been slain by one of his tenants. The connections of the young Lord were rich and powerful, those of Lewis poor and humble.

"With such fearful odds, it was deemed rash and unwise that Lewis should, even with law and justice on his side, surrender himself to the officers of the law. It was consequently determined that he should proceed on that evening disguised in a friend's dress to the nearest seaport and take shipping to Oporto, in Portugal, where a brother of his wife was established in merchandise. Luckily he met a vessel just ready to sail from the Bay of Donegal, on which he took passage.

"After various adventures, for the ship was not bound for Portugal, in different countries, he arrived at Oporto in the year 1729. Upon his arrival there, he was advised by his brother-in-law, in order to elude the vigilance of his enemies, to proceed to Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania, and there to await the arrival of his family, which, he learned, was in good health, and which his brother-in-law undertook to remove to America.

"Lewis, following this advice, proceeded at once to Philadelphia. In a year his family joined him and, learning from them that the most industrious efforts were being made by the friends of the young Lord to discover the country to which he had fled, he determined to penetrate deep into the American forest. He moved then immediately from Philadelphia to Lancaster and there spent the Winter of 1731 and 1732 and in the Summer of 1732 he removed to the place near Staunton in the County of Augusta, Virginia, now called Bellefonte, where he settled, conquered the country from the Indians, and amassed a large fortune."

John Lewis built his house of stone and called it

Bellefonte, because of a bold spring at that point. It formed part of Fort Lewis, and this half-dwelling, half-fortress withstood the savages until the country became sufficiently populous for the people to defy their enemies. Lewis and other early settlers showed much tact in dealing with the aborigines, and these men who might almost be called men without a country governed themselves according to the laws of common sense and handled their affairs for a number of years without any regularly constituted government.

A few years after John Lewis came to Augusta he made a trip to Williamsburg and there met Benjamin Burden. He invited Burden to come back to Bellefonte with him for a visit and the Englishman came, spending several months making himself agreeable and hunting with John Lewis' sons, Thomas, Andrew and William. On one of their hunting expeditions they captured a buffalo calf, which Burden carried back to Williamsburg as a gift to Governor Gooch. The Governor was so pleased that this gift played a large part in his granting Burden the 500,000 acres mentioned above.

Burden went abroad to obtain settlers for his grant and in 1737 returned with the 100 families required. Among them were the McDowells, Crawfords, McClures, Alexanders, Wallaces, Moores, Mathews and other founders of families which became distinguished. Because of the activities of the proprietors of Beverley Manor and the Burden grant and of other grantees, who advertised for settlers throughout the Colonies and in Europe, the number of settlements increased rapidly,

which led to official action by the Colonial Government of Virginia.

Accordingly, in 1738, an act of the General Assembly provided for the establishment of two counties west of the Blue Ridge, Frederick being a sister county of Augusta. They were to include all the territory west of the Blue Ridge "at present deemed to be a part of the county of Orange lying on the northwest side of the top of the said mountains, extending thence northerly, westerly and southerly beyond the said mountains to the uttermost limits of Virginia." The "uttermost limits of Virginia" was the Mississippi, beyond which were the French possessions known as Louisiana.

It was further provided that the two new counties should remain a part of the county of Orange and Parish of St. Mark until there should be a sufficient number of inhabitants for setting up an independent government. In the act of 1738 Augusta was given its name, presumably for Princess Augusta, wife of Frederick Lewis, Prince of Wales, a daughter of Frederick II, Duke of Saxe-Gotha.

Seven years later, in 1745, the county government of Augusta was organized with the present city of Staunton as the county seat. Augusta was not reduced to its present bounds until 1790. Staunton was incorporated in 1761 and named for Lady Staunton, the wife of Governor William Gooch. The first courthouse was built in 1745 on the present court green, and the courthouse which now stands there was completed in 1837. The first clerk's office was at Port Republic and, due to its being so often traveled by the King's Attorney, Gabriel Jones, and the other lawyers, the road by the

Western Asylum through New Hope is still referred to as Lawyers' Lane.

The early story of Augusta roughly may be divided into three periods of seven years. John Lewis fled from Ireland and seven years later Augusta County was formed in 1738; in another seven years the County government was set up in 1745; at the expiration of still another seven-year period Governor Robert Dinwiddie came to Virginia in 1752, and from that time forward the story of the settlements in Augusta became much more closely connected with that of the Colony of Virginia.

The rapid settlement of Augusta is not surprising, considering the efforts which were made to induce settlement and the remarkable beauty and fertility of the region. Here were nurtured a set of men to a large extent uninfluenced by established government and church and largely free from the more objectionable traditions which had come down from feudal times in Europe. A hardy race of men developed, jealous of their liberties, self-reliant and brave to the core. Citizens of Augusta played an enormous part in the long struggles against the savages, the French, and finally the English.

The Scotch and Irish immigration to America followed the siege of Londonderry, the escape of King James to France, and the acceptance of the British throne by William and Mary. For fifty years there was an exodus of Presbyterians from Ireland to America, being lured to the new country where they might escape paying tythes to the Church of England. The Presbyterians were first to come into Augusta, and the

Colonial government of Virginia, anxious to seat a white population west of the Blue Ridge, was lenient in enforcing the rules of the Established Church upon Presbyterians and other dissenters in the Valley.

The Scotch-Irish migration to the Valley of Virginia was of transcendent importance. Most of these stern covenanters were from Ulster, in the north of Ireland just across from Scotland. An eminent historian has said of those who came to Virginia "The Scotch-Irish were so afraid of God, that this fear left in their hearts no room for fear of mortal man."

Perhaps even more important than the intermingling of blood was the kinship in spirit between them and those who had settled in eastern Virginia. When the tragedy of fratricidal war broke out in 1861, the Scotch-Irish Stonewall Jackson and J. E. B. Stuart rode on the right hand and on the left of that gentlest and greatest of the Cavaliers, Robert E. Lee.

From the Scotch-Irish of the Valley also came Gen. Samuel Houston, the Alexanders, John C. Breckinridge, Thomas H. Benton, William C. Preston, John J. Crittenden, Gen. Wade Hampton and Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, and hundreds of other men of distinction could be named. Of the same stock, but from lower down the Valley, came the two celebrated Revolutionary heroes, Col. Daniel Morgan and Col. William Crawford. The former was one of the most colorful as well as intrepid officers in the Continental Army. The brilliant career of the latter ended in 1782 when he was captured by the Indians and burned at the stake.

The first regular Presbyterian minister in the county was the Rev. John Craig, who was sent by the Presby-

tery of Donegal in 1739, and he ultimately became the pastor of Tinkling Spring and Augusta churches. He commenced his ministry at the Old Stone Church, on the Valley Turnpike about eight miles north of Staunton, which was built in 1740.

In the act of 1738 establishing Augusta, the Parish of Augusta also was erected, but Augusta remained a part of the Parish of St. Mark until seven years later. It seems, however, that the Church of England was never particularly strong in Augusta in Colonial times, whereas other denominations flourished. In addition to the Presbyterians, there were active congregations of Methodists, German Lutherans and Baptists. The Rev. Joseph Doddridge, D. D., an Episcopal clergyman who visited western Virginia and eastern Ohio and wrote of religious conditions there in the period from 1763 to 1783, said: "The Episcopal Church, which ought to have been foremost in gathering their scattered flocks, had been the last and done the least of any Christian community in the evangelical work. Taking the western country in its whole extent, at least one-half of its population was originally of Episcopalian parentage, but for want of a ministry of their own, they have associated with other communities."

John Wilson served as a member of the House of Burgesses from Augusta for twenty-seven consecutive years, except for a brief interim in 1754, when he was serving as a surveyor.

Members of the Burgesses were as follows: 1748-1754, John Wilson, John Madison; 1755, John Madison; James Patton; 1755-1758, John Wilson, Gabriel Jones; 1758-1765, John Wilson, Israel Christian; 1765-

1768, John Wilson, William Preston; 1769-1772, John Wilson, Gabriel Jones; 1772, John Wilson, Samuel McDowell; 1773, Samuel McDowell, Charles Lewis (Wilson died in that year); 1774, Samuel McDowell, Charles Lewis; 1775, Charles Lewis (killed in battle), George Matthews, Samuel McDowell.

In the conventions of 1775 were, March, Thomas Lewis, Samuel McDowell; July, Thomas Lewis, Samuel McDowell, John Harvie, George Rootes; December, Thomas Lewis and Samuel McDowell.

In the convention of 1776 were Thomas Lewis and Samuel McDowell.

The rival claims of Virginia and the French Government to the vast lands west of the Alleghanies which were then a part of Augusta County could not but lead to trouble. The French had a line of forts from New Orleans to Quebec, one of the most important being Fort du Quesne, where Pittsburgh now stands. Previous to any acts of open hostility, the English sought to strengthen their claims to the western country by throwing a large white population into it by means of land companies. The Ohio Company was granted 500,000 acres on the south side of the Ohio between the Monongahela and the Kanawha. The Greenbrier Company, with John Lewis at its head, was granted 100,000 acres on the Greenbrier River. The Loyal Company, in 1749, was granted 800,000 acres. In 1751 John Lewis and his son Andrew, who later became the celebrated general, surveyed the Greenbrier tract.

The French understood these designs and strengthened their fortifications. A company of French soldiers was sent as far south as the Miami River, and here

occurred a clash in which there was bloodshed in 1752, which marked the beginning of the long contest which resulted ultimately in the loss to France of all her territories east of the Mississippi.

About the time the county government of Augusta was set up in 1745, the militia was organized, and John Lewis was colonel. This organization was in keeping with the general regulations of militia all the way from Massachusetts to Georgia. Under existing laws, the commander of the militia was required to list all males above the age of twenty-one. The men were to be thoroughly armed, and each militiaman was required to keep at his house at all times a pound of gunpowder and four of bullets. The commander was empowered to require all militiamen to go armed to their respective churches when it was deemed necessary.

When Governor Dinwiddie arrived in 1752 he saw that trouble with the French was impending and went into warlike preparations on a wider scale, determined to maintain the English claim to the country west of the mountains. Dinwiddie, in 1753, commissioned the young surveyor, George Washington, to go to the French headquarters near Pittsburg and demand that the French leave. This they refused to do, informing Washington that it was their purpose to destroy every English settlement in the West. When Washington brought his report to Williamsburg in January, 1754, Virginia proceeded to raise a regiment under Colonel Joshua Fry, of Albemarle, with Washington as lieutenant-colonel.

The ensuing clashes with the French and their In-

dian allies are briefly outlined here only for the reason that Augusta men played such prominent parts in them.

Col. Fry died and Washington succeeded to the command of the Virginians early in the campaign. After a victory over a French and Indian force at a place called Redstone, Washington built Fort Necessity. The enemy force of about 1,000 assaulted the fort. After nine hours of fierce fighting, the French commander sent a flag of truce, extolled the bravery of the Virginians, and offered to treat for the surrender of the place on honorable terms, which was accepted. This was known as the Battle of Great Meadows, and was fought July 3, 1753.

The British government now saw war was inevitable, and encouraged the Colonies to form a union among themselves. This was done, and a plan of action was signed by the agents of the leading northern colonies and Maryland in 1754. Early in 1755 the Colonies attacked the French at four different points, Nova Scotia, Crown Point, Niagara and on the Ohio River.

The campaign on the Ohio was under the command of General Edward Braddock, who arrived from England in February with two Royal regiments. Virginia raised 800 men to join Braddock, who arrived at Alexandria, then called Bellhaven, and appointed Washington as his aide-de-camp. Three of John Lewis' sons were in this campaign. Thomas Lewis was sent with his company to Greenbrier to build a stockade fort, while Andrew and William Lewis helped Washington in saving the remnants of the British army at Braddock's defeat. It is impossible to estimate how

many more of Augusta's sons took part in this and many another bloody battle on the western frontier.

Braddock crossed the Monongahela with about 2,200 men on July 9, 1755. He fell into an ambush and was mortally wounded and his regulars were put to flight. The British and Colonial losses were estimated at 777 men killed and wounded, and had it not been for the coolness of Washington and the Virginia troops the whole force would have been destroyed. The whole frontier of western Virginia was left defenseless, and the campaign against Niagara also failed.

During this period the Indians committed unspeakable horrors all along Virginia's western outposts. In this connection the Sandy Creek expedition should be noted for the reason that so many Augusta men took part in it. The depredations of the savages were so severe after Braddock's defeat that an expedition was fitted out early in 1756 to attack the Indian towns west of the Ohio. There were 340 men under the command of Major Andrew Lewis. Among the officers were captains William Preston, Peter Hogg, John Smith, Archibald Alexander, R. Breckinridge, —— Woodson, Samuel Overton, of Hanover, and Captain David Stewart, commissary. Also there were two volunteer companies under captains Montgomery and Dunlap. The force crossed the Holstein River in February, 1756, and pushed on to Sandy Creek and continued westward, suffering untold hardships from hunger and cold, but they received orders to return before reaching their destination.

Hostilities became more and more pronounced between the French and English Colonies, and now the

parent governments put an end to this unnatural state of affairs when Great Britain formally declared war against France May 9, 1756, which opened the French and Indian War, in which most of Europe, North America, the East and West Indies were engaged, and was coincident with the Seven Years War in Europe. Royal troops were sent over and Virginia contributed 1,600 men to coöperate, with Washington as colonel, Adam Stephen, as lieutenant colonel, and Andrew Lewis as major.

For another two years the French were highly successful, but in the campaigns of 1758 to 1760 the British were victorious on all fronts, with the result that Canada fell into their hands. The Treaty of Fontainbleau, agreed upon in November, 1762, ended the war.

The controversy over the western boundary line between Virginia and Pennsylvania became acute under Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, and John Penn, Governor of Pennsylvania. In fact it continued until after the Revolution when the extension of the Mason and Dixon line was agreed upon by Virginia in 1784. This line had been surveyed in the period from 1763 to 1767 by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, of London. Its western extension was agreed upon in 1779 and the whole matter was settled in 1784.

The Treaty of Fontainbleau did not bring peace to the Virginia frontiers. On the contrary, the following two years were memorable for the destructive character of the war waged by the united Indian tribes of the western country with a view to extermination of the whites. They saw the English building forts far and near and realized that the time had come when they

must make a last stand in defense of their country. Their plan was the general massacre of all the English settlers in the western area. Massacres were committed within the present limits of Augusta.

During the year 1763, the Augusta people organized for defense, and in August of that year Andrew Lewis was made county lieutenant—that is, commander-in-chief of the Augusta forces. William Preston was made colonel, and the following were the captains: Walter Cunningham, Alexander McClenachan, William Crow and John Bowyer. Lieutenants were John McClenachan, William Bowyer and David Long, with James Ward as ensign.

Conspicuous in what might be called Augusta's own Indian war in 1764 were the Six Nations. These, known hitherto as the Five Nations and called Iroquois by the French, were joined by the Tuscaroras, who were then living in the Carolinas. All spoke the same language. They were joined by the Shawnees and other tribes in the West, and all united against Virginia, Pennsylvania and the other Colonies. This short but bloody war was brought to a temporary close by treaty the latter part of 1764. Colonization was now encouraged, and vast land grants were made of unexplored territory all the way to the Mississippi. Officers and men who had served in the French and Indian War were entitled to bounty lands by proclamation of the King following the Treaty of Fontainbleau.

While white population increased rapidly in the following decade, atrocities on the part of both Indians and whites became so bad that in 1774 a new war broke out, with the Virginia government organizing an armed

expedition to break the power of the Indians. This was spoken of by historians as Lord Dunmore's War.

Andrew Lewis, then a member of the House of Burgesses and in his fifty-sixth year, was called into conference. It was agreed that Dunmore would take command of a force at what is now Pittsburgh and come down the Ohio, while Lewis would advance by the Great Kanawha, and they would join at its mouth. Lewis then went to Staunton, named his own officers and issued a call for troops. Volunteers poured in, and they were sent off to Camp Union, on the Greenbrier, as the point of general muster.

The gallant victory of the Virginians at Point Pleasant, at the fork of the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers, is fully described in history. Andrew Lewis assumed command of the force at Camp Union and, on September 11, 1774, unsheathed the old sword he had used at Braddock's defeat nineteen years before and in the Indian war of 1763-64, and started the march to the west. After a painful journey of nineteen days through the wilderness they arrived at Point Pleasant October 1. No word was received from Dunmore, so a camp was fortified.

In the meantime the Indians were fully aware of what the two Virginia armies planned to do, and assembled northwest of the Ohio under the celebrated chieftain Cornstalk. Animated by their ancient hatred of the Virginians, whom they called Long Knives, they determined to crush first the division of Lewis and then that of Dunmore. It was found out afterward that Cornstalk was at Point Pleasant when Lewis arrived,

and secretly watched the disposition of the Virginia troops.

On October 9, a message came from Dunmore that he had changed his plans, and ordering Lewis to proceed to the Indian towns on the Scioto, where Dunmore would join him. With the Revolution fast approaching, historians have not failed to accuse Dunmore of double-dealing in this campaign. It is known that even as early as 1774 the British west of the mountains were inciting the Indians against the Long Knives. It will be remembered that it was this same Andrew Lewis who at Gwynn's Island in 1776 drove Lord Dunmore, the last of the Royal Governors, from Virginia forever.

Lewis and his men, vastly outnumbered by a well-armed force of savages, fought the Battle of Point Pleasant and won it. This victory broke the power of the Indian confederacy, and it is impossible to say to what extent it interfered with the British efforts to bring over the Six Nations to their side, which efforts persisted until George Rogers Clark took Vincennes in 1779 and found papers which revealed a far-flung plan of the British to attack with their Indian allies from the West while Washington was carrying on the Revolution on the Atlantic seaboard.

So many of the officers at the Battle of Point Pleasant were from Augusta that those who are known to have served in that engagement should be mentioned.

There was a regiment of Augusta troops under Colonel Charles Lewis, brother of Andrew Lewis and one of Augusta's representatives in the House of Burgesses at the time. The captains were George Mathews, afterward [illegible] Alexander McClenac-

han, John Dickinson, John Lewis, son of Col. William Lewis, afterward of the Sweet Springs; Benjamin Harrison, William Paul, Joseph Haynes and Samuel Wilson.

A Botetourt regiment was commanded by Col. William Fleming. The captains were Mathew Arbuckle, John Murray, John Lewis, son of the general in command; James Robertson, Robert McClenachan, James Ward and John Stuart.

A regiment from Culpeper was under Col. John Field. There were three independent companies under Col. William Christian, and their captains were Evan Shelby, William Russell and —— Harbert. Also there was an independent company from Bedford under Captain Thomas Buford.

In accordance with Dunmore's order, Lewis broke camp on the 10th and prepared for the march west. The Virginians were attacked by the entire Indian army, made up of the pick of the northern and western confederated tribes. It is hardly appropriate here to go into the details of this highly spectacular battle.

Lewis ordered the Augusta troops to the front, under the command of his younger brother, Col. Charles Lewis. At the very outset of a furious assault on the Augusta force, Col. Charles Lewis fell, mortally wounded. The gallant Col. John Field also lost his life. Other officers known to have been killed in the fierce battle which ensued were Captains Morrow, Buford, Wood, Murray, Cardiff, Wilson and Robert McClenachan, and Lieutenants Allen, Goldsby and Dillon.

Among the Virginians in this battle who afterwards

became distinguished were Gen. Isaac Shelby, first Governor of Kentucky; Gen. William Campbell and Col. John Campbell, heroes in the Battle of King's Mountain; Gen. Evan Shelby, of Tennessee; Col. William Fleming, acting Governor of Virginia at one period during the Revolution; Gen. Andrew Moore, United States Senator; Col. John Stuart, of Greenbrier; General Tate, of Washington County; Col. William McKee, of Kentucky; Col. John Steele, Governor of Mississippi; Col. Charles Cameron, of Bath; Major John Lewis, of Monroe; General Wells, of Ohio; and General George Mathews, Governor of Georgia.

It should be remembered that as early as 1763 Great Britain began to assert a right to tax the American Colonies, and the first act with that end in view was in 1764, in the form of duties on a number of items of American consumption. This act was bitterly resented in the Colonies because it was based on the claim that they might be taxed without their consent. In pursuance of the same policy, the notorious Stamp Act was passed in 1765, and Virginia, stirred by the oratory of Patrick Henry, led the way in opposition to this measure by the adoption of Henry's celebrated resolutions against the Stamp Act by the House of Burgesses. These resolutions were warmly supported by John Wilson and William Preston, Burgesses from Augusta at the time. The controversy continued for ten years, increasing in heat, and all hope of conciliation with the mother country was at an end in 1776 with the Declaration of Independence.

Augusta saw eye to eye with her sister Virginia

counties in the movement which resulted in the Revolution. In February, 1775, the freeholders of Augusta met at Staunton and chose Captain Thomas Lewis and Captain Samuel McDowell to represent them in the convention at Richmond in March of that year, with instructions to coöperate with the other delegates in such measures as might be deemed necessary to perpetuate the "ancient, just and legal rights of this Colony and all British America."

In addition to the grievances held in common with the older counties against Great Britain, Augusta also had seen at first hand the iniquitous traffic the British in the West had been carrying on with the Indians, and it is doubtful if there was a single Tory in Augusta during the Revolution.

When the Revolution began with the Declaration of Independence July 4, 1776, and Washington was appointed commander-in-chief of the army, the following were among the Augusta men then, or shortly afterward, commissioned: Andrew Lewis, brigadier-general; colonels, William Lewis, George Mathews, Alexander McClenachan and Thomas Fleming; majors, M. Donovan and John Lewis. Gen. Andrew Lewis promptly took command of the forces in and around Williamsburg, and in that same month he commanded in the action at Gwynn's Island, Mathews County, in which Lord Dunmore, the last Royal Governor of Virginia, was driven out, never to return.

The story of Augusta County, of course, merged with the story of the American Colonies' fight for independence. While her sons played their part in the campaigns east of the mountains, they played equally

as valiant a part in the bloody encounters with the British and their Indian allies west of the mountains. But this is American history, and a very thrilling chapter, rather than the story of Augusta County.

Augusta men took part in the siege of Fort McHenry, at Wheeling, Williamson's campaign, Crawford's expedition, the second siege of Fort McHenry and the attack on Fort Rice. On the day after Christmas, 1776, Washington won the Battle of Trenton, and several hundred of the Hessian prisoners were sent to Staunton. It will be remembered that when Benedict Arnold invaded Richmond in January, 1781, the Legislature moved to Charlottesville, and with the approach of Tarleton's cavalry early in June, the members made their way to Staunton, where they convened on June 7, in the Episcopal church.

The provisional articles of peace after Cornwallis' surrender and the cessation of hostilities in the Revolution were drawn up at Paris in November, 1782, and the final treaty of peace was signed September 3, 1783. Meanwhile it was found that the confederative system of government was inadequate and in 1787 commissioners from all the States, except Rhode Island, met at Philadelphia and their work resulted in the Federal Constitution.

Although there were many Augusta families who moved to Kentucky and the Northwest Territory during and after the Revolution, many other families came into the county to replace them. Prosperity seemed particularly abundant in the period from 1840 to 1860. The Augusta Savings Bank, the first institution of its kind in the County, was established in 1848, with

Benjamin Crawford as president, Robert Cowan, treasurer, and J. Lewis Peyton, secretary.

Also in 1848 a large convention was held in Staunton with delegates from eighteen counties and the City of Richmond. This body adopted resolutions calling upon the General Assembly to appropriate funds for a railroad from "some point near the head of steamboat navigation on the Kanawha River to some point at or near Covington." Also it was resolved "that the Blue Ridge Mountains constitute a barrier to the communication between the eastern and western parts of the State, the removal of which barrier is an object of great interest to the whole Commonwealth, therefore the General Assembly ought to appropriate a sum adequate to the construction of the Louisa Railroad from the eastern to the western base," and "that the capital of the Louisa Railroad Company ought to be increased, so as to enable them to extend the road to a point at or near Covington," and "that the extension of the Louisa Railroad from the junction (Hanover) to the dock in the City of Richmond, as an independent improvement, is a measure of very great interest to a large portion of the people of Virginia now looking to that railroad as a medium of transport to market."

These objectives were consummated, and were important steps in what resulted, after the War Between the States, in the formation of the Chesapeake and Ohio System.

When President James Madison declared war against Great Britain in 1812, Augusta immediately formed a military association to devise plans for military schools in which recruits might be instructed, and when Ad-

miral Cochran came into Chesapeake Bay and ravaged the coasts of Virginia and Maryland and the call for volunteers was sent out, Augusta was ready. The Augusta troop marched to Camp Holly, near Richmond, and then to Craney Island. Robert Porterfield, an old Revolutionary officer, was brigadier-general; John H. Peyton was chief of staff, and Dr. Williams, of Waynesboro, was surgeon. Other officers known to have been commissioned were Captains B. G. Baldwin, C. Johnson, J. C. Sowers, John Mathews, Hugh Young, Abraham Large, Christian Morris, Joseph Larew, Samuel Doake, Samuel Steele, Alexander Givens, George C. Robertson and W. G. Dudley, with James Kirke, John Sperry and John H. Peck as commissaries.

Similarly, when the Mexican War broke out in 1845, Augusta contributed a company under the command of Captain Kenton Harper, which marched to Norfolk and proceeded by water to Corpus Christi, Texas. When the war was over in 1848, Mexico having lost Texas, California, Utah and New Mexico, the Augusta troops came home after their long and arduous campaign and were tendered a dinner at Staunton by the loyal people of the county. Lieutenants in that command were R. H. Kinney, V. E. Geiger and William H. Harman.

The vast County of Augusta remained intact until 1770, when Botetourt was formed. Thereafter the formation of new counties was accelerated. The Virginia Counties of Ohio and Kentucky, and many other subdivisions of Augusta west of the mountains having been

cut off, Bath County was finally formed by act of 1790 and Augusta County was reduced to its present bounds.

The county court system, which originated in Virginia as early as 1623, was not materially changed by the Revolution, and the gentlemen justices continued to preside in Augusta. Finally certain constitutional changes resulted in the substitution of a county judge for the old county court system, and in 1904 the circuit courts replaced the county courts. Other courts of wider jurisdiction had been formed in the meantime. For instance, in 1802 the Commonwealth was divided into three districts, and Staunton was the seat of the chancery court for a district extending to the Ohio River, and the first chancellor was John Brown. Also at Staunton was a common law court of which Archibald Stuart was judge, and when, in 1809, this was superseded by the Superior Courts of Law, Judge Stuart continued to preside, with John Howe Peyton as attorney for the Commonwealth.

It is a remarkable fact that two highly important inventions were perfected in Augusta within a few miles of Midway. Cyrus H. McCormick, in 1831, invented the grain reaper, and in the same vicinity in 1856 J. A. E. Gibbs worked out the chainstitch sewing machine.

As the War Between the States approached, Augusta was strongly in favor of preserving the Union, if possible, and at a mass meeting at Staunton November 26, 1860, resolutions were adopted calling upon the General Assembly of Virginia to do everything within its power to avert the tragedy of war and preserve the Union. In these resolutions were the oft-quoted words

that the Constitution "is the easiest yoke of government a free people ever bore, and yet the strongest protector of rights the wisdom of man ever contrived."

The committee who drafted these resolutions were A. H. H. Stuart, H. W. Sheffey, G. K. Harper, John B. Baldwin, G. B. Stuart, John L. Peyton, John McCue, J. A. Waddell, Robert Guy, J. D. Imboden, Benjamin Crawford, G. M. Cochran, Jr., and George Baylor. It was largely through the influence of the able men who participated in that meeting that Virginia was the eighth State to secede.

Later, when the secession convention met in Richmond, John B. Baldwin, later a gallant Confederate officer, made such an impassioned plea for conciliation and the preservation of the Union that not only was a vote deferred, but, he himself was sent by the convention to Washington to confer with President Lincoln and to explain the true feelings of the Virginia people.

Shortly afterward Fort Sumter was fired on and Lincoln issued his proclamation for 75,000 troops, so Virginia voted for secession. Then the very men who had done most in efforts to avert war, flew to arms. Again, after the war, when it was seen that the cause was lost and the sooner the Union was again perfected the better it would be for all, Col. Baldwin was the leader in another mass meeting at Staunton which led to a State-wide movement for reinstatement of Virginia in the Union, a movement which went far in shielding the prostrate people of Virginia from tyranny in the years following the war.

Most of the fighting on Augusta soil was in 1864. Her sons fought with great bravery at the battles of

Mt. Crawford and Piedmont, and later in the same year came Gen. Philip Sheridan in his march up the Shenandoah Valley, after which he boasted that "a crow flying over the Valley must take his rations with him." Sheridan, with approximately 45,000 troops, continued his march up the Valley into Augusta. The Confederates tried to stem the tide of an overwhelming force at Fishersville, but were forced to retire, and Sheridan pushed on to Staunton, where all public property was destroyed, including the railroad and two factories. His cavalry proceeded to Waynesboro for further destruction. Augusta, along with the rest of the beautiful Valley of Virginia, was left in a state of almost utter desolation.

The Augusta troops in the Confederate army, with their officers, were as follows:

The Staunton Artillery: Capt. J. D. Imboden; lieutenants, T. L. Harman, A. W. Garber, W. L. Balthis and G. W. Imboden.

The West Augusta Guard: Capt. W. S. H. Baylor; lieutenants, H. K. Cochran, J. H. Waters, J. Bumgardner and W. Blackburn.

There were two companies of cavalry. One was under Captain William Patrick, afterward promoted to major; and the other was commanded by Capt. F. F. Sterrett, serving for the latter part of the war with Col. James W. Cochran, also of Augusta.

Two regiments of volunteer infantry were raised, the 5th Virginia and the 52nd Virginia. The 5th Virginia, a part of the celebrated Stonewall Brigade of Gen. T. J. Jackson and composed mainly of troops from Augusta, had the following officers: Kenton Harper,

colonel; William H. Harman, lieutenant-colonel; William S. H. Baylor, major; and Captain James Bumgardner, adjutant. Captains were J. H. S. Funk, S. H. Letcher, Robert Doyle, Jacob Trevy, H. J. Williams, Captain McHenry, James Newton, Lycurgus Grills, St. Francis Roberts, Peter Wilson, George T. Antrim, James Gibson, A. W. Harman, Richard Simms, O. F. Grinnan, E. L. Curtis, James H. Waters, Thomas J. Burke and Milton Bucher.

In the Fall of 1861 Col. Harper resigned and William H. Harman was promoted to colonel. William S. H. Baylor became lieutenant-colonel and A. Koiner was made major. At the reorganization in March, 1862, Major Baylor was made colonel; Captain Funk, lieutenant-colonel; Capt. H. J. Williams, major; and C. S. Arnall was made adjutant. After the death of Col. Baylor, at Second Manassas, Lieutenant-Colonel Funk was made colonel; Major Williams, lieutenant-colonel; and Capt. James W. Newton was made major. Col. Funk was killed at the Battle of Winchester in 1864.

The 52nd Virginia was commanded by Col. John B. Baldwin. M. G. Harman was lieutenant-colonel; J. D. H. Ross, major, and John Lewis, of Bath, adjutant. The surgeon was Livingston Waddell, and assistant surgeon, John Lewis, of Albemarle. Captains were William Long, E. M. Dabney, J. F. Hottle, J. H. Skinner, Thomas Watkins, of Rockbridge, Samuel McCune, J. C. Lilley, John H. Humphreys and John Miller, of Rockbridge.

Robert D. Lilley was captain of the Augusta Lee

Rifles, with the following lieutenants: C. G. Merritt, J. B. Smith and C. Davis.

John L. Peyton was commissioned a colonel and was raising a troop early in 1861, when he was sent on a mission to England by the Confederate Government.

In addition to the family of John Lewis, whose descendants have distinguished themselves in many lines of activity in many States, brief mention may be made of a few of the other founders of prominent families who have been identified with Augusta.

Ephraim McDowell came to the County between 1735 and 1740 to be near his friend and relative John Lewis. He is credited with having built the first road across the Blue Ridge. With him came his son, John McDowell, who was Burden's surveyor and they settled on the Burden grant in what is now Rockbridge. John McDowell was killed by the Indians in 1742. From this family came Gov. James McDowell; the wife of Col. George Moffett, of Augusta, Indian fighter and Revolutionary officer; Gen. Joseph McDowell, of North Carolina; and Gen. Joseph Jefferson McDowell, of Ohio.

John Preston, a native of County Derry, Ireland, was the immigrant to Augusta and was buried in Tinkling Spring Cemetery. From his one son and four daughters are descended many men of mark. His son, William Preston, was a member of the House of Burgesses. John Preston's daughters married as follows: Col. Robert Breckinridge, of Virginia, and after his death moved to Kentucky; Rev. John Brown, a prominent Presbyterian minister of Virginia and Kentucky; Francis Smith, of Virginia, later moving to Kentucky; and the fourth married John Howard, of Virginia, and

her son was a member of Congress from Kentucky and Governor of Missouri Territory.

John Campbell, born in Ireland, came to Augusta in 1733 and left two sons, Patrick and David Campbell. Among the descendants were: Gen. William Campbell, the hero of King's Mountain; Robert Campbell, an officer with his brother in the same engagement; a number of celebrated Indian fighters; and David Campbell, a judge of the Superior Court of Tennessee.

Archibald Stuart, who lived near Waynesboro and died there in 1761, also had two brothers in the County, John and David Stuart, all having been born in Ireland. Major Alexander Stuart, son of Archibald Stuart, was a Revolutionary officer and was severely wounded at Guilford Courthouse. Major Stuart was the father of Judge Archibald Stuart, of Staunton.

Joseph Bell and William Craig were among the early settlers.

John Cochran settled at Staunton about 1745.

The family of Captain James Tate, of Augusta, who was killed at Guilford Courthouse, moved to Kentucky and Missouri.

Four children of Gilbert Christian, of Ireland, came to Augusta about 1733 and settled in Beverley Manor, on Christian's Creek. Most of the family moved to Kentucky and Tennessee. Among the descendants was Gov. Allen Trimble, of Ohio.

Patrick Crawford, who emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania, came to Augusta about 1750.

The Rev. John McCue succeeded the Rev. James Waddell, the Blind Preacher, at Tinkling Spring church.

Peter Hanger settled in Augusta in 1750, having

come from Pennsylvania, and owned the farm which is now a part of the Staunton water-works.

Five sons of the Mathews family came from Ireland and settled in Augusta about 1739. From this family came John P. Mathews, Governor of the Territory of Oregon, and George Mathews, Governor of Georgia.

Robert and Charles Porterfield were both officers in the Revolution, the latter dying from wounds received in that conflict. Gen. Robert Porterfield came to Augusta about 1782 and left a number of descendants.

John Wayt came to the county about 1790 from Orange and was Mayor of Staunton.

Henry J. Peyton came to Augusta from another county about 1796 and was appointed clerk of the Chancery Court of the district in 1802. John Howe Peyton came to the County in 1809 as commonwealth's attorney. Both were of the Peyton family of eastern Virginia, one of the oldest in the Colony.

Judge Briscoe G. Baldwin, born at Winchester in 1789, moved to Staunton in 1809 and was elected to the Supreme Court of Virginia in 1842. He married the daughter of Chancellor John Brown, another of Augusta's distinguished sons, and from this union came Col. John Brown Baldwin, noted statesman and soldier. Col. Briscoe G. Baldwin, another of Judge Baldwin's sons, was chief of ordnance for the Confederacy.

Michael Koiner, who had settled in Pennsylvania, had a large family and two of his sons, George Adam and Casper Koiner, came to Augusta. The father joined them in 1787 and he died in the county in 1796.

part of Augusta which is now Botetourt about 1760. He raised and commanded a regiment in the Battle of Point Pleasant and was severely wounded in that engagement. For a brief period he was acting Governor of Virginia.

John Madison, first clerk of Augusta, from 1745 to 1779, lived near Port Republic in that part of Augusta which is now Rockingham. His son, Bishop James Madison, was born there in 1749. Bishop Madison was the first bishop of the Established Church in Virginia in 1785. Receiving his education in England, he was in the faculty of the College of William and Mary and became president of that institution.

Among other men associated with the outlying regions of Augusta County should be mentioned Major Samuel McCulloch, Col. Ebenezer Zane, founder of Wheeling, W. Va., Lewis Wetzel, Capt. Andrew Poe, Capt. Samuel Brady and Jesse Hughes.

All five of the sons of John Lewis, the Founder of Augusta, were distinguished men, and many of their descendants have been noted in various parts of the country. John Lewis' two daughters died unmarried.

Captain Samuel Lewis, eldest son of John Lewis, was a captain in the French and Indian War and was at Braddock's defeat. He was later distinguished in the defence of Greenbrier County from the Indians. He was the only one of the sons who never married.

Thomas Lewis was at Braddock's defeat. He had defective vision and was not as conspicuous as his other brothers in military affairs, but he was a man of much learning and an expert surveyor. He was a member of the House of Burgesses, of the Continental Congress of

1775, and of the Virginia conventions of 1776 and 1778.

The biography of General Andrew Lewis, the hero of Point Pleasant and many another engagement, is well known.

Col. William Lewis was severely wounded at Braddock's defeat. He was a practising physician, and when the Revolution broke out was commissioned a colonel. His son Thomas Lewis also was an officer, serving with Gen. Wayne's army.

Col. Charles Lewis, the youngest son of John Lewis, was serving as a member of the House of Burgesses from Augusta when he was killed at the battle of Point Pleasant.

Woodrow Wilson, World War President of the United States, was born at Staunton December 28, 1856.

William Hall, of Augusta, was Governor of Tennessee 1820-22.

Allen Trimble was Governor of Ohio 1821-22 and 1826-30.

Hamilton R. Gamble was Governor of Missouri 1861-64.

Courthouse Site Unchanged

The present courthouse at Staunton is on the site of the old and was completed in 1837. How many other structures which have stood on this spot since 1745 is not definitely known. The land was donated for the purpose in 1748 by William Beverley.

John Madison, the first clerk, took his books with him to his home near Port Republic for a number of years, but a clerk's office was later built at Staunton.

Since the erection of the present building the east

wing has been the office of the Circuit Court clerk, and the west wing the office of the county clerk.

Sully Portrait of Marshall

Among the many portraits on the walls of the courtroom is one that is perhaps the most valuable picture in any courthouse in Virginia. It is a large oil painting of Chief Justice John Marshall, and is by Sully. It hangs just behind the judge's seat.

The Staunton *Spectator* of May 11, 1837, stated that "the portrait of this distinguished jurist and patriot, intended for the new courthouse, has been contracted for and is now expected daily. The artist is Mr. Sully, the gentleman who painted the admirable likeness of John Marshall which was purchased by the Common Hall of the City of Richmond."

The artist was paid $300 by the subscription of private individuals of Augusta County and Staunton, and it appears from an order of the county court May 30, 1838, that the County paid $60 to cover the cost of hanging it. In the event that the files of the Staunton *Spectator* have been destroyed, this information may be found in an article in the William and Mary *Quarterly* for January, 1930, written by Armistead C. Gordon.

The other portraits in the courtroom are likenesses of the following men, all judges and lawyers who practiced at the Augusta bar:

Marshall Hanger (1833-1912), Hugh W. Sheffey (1815-1889), James Bumgardner, Jr. (1835-1917), William McLaughlin (1828-1898), Thomas C. Elder (1834-1904), Henderson M. Bell (1826-1899), Rich-

ard P. Bell (1853-1904), Meade F. White (1847-1898), Thomas J. Michie (1795-1875), David Fultz (1802-1886), John B. Baldwin (1820-1873), John H. Peyton (1822-1898), George M. Cochran (1832-1900), S. H. Letcher (1848-1914), John Echols (1823-1896), Edward Echols (1849-1914), A. H. H. Stuart (1807-1891), Robert L. Parrish (1840-1904), A. Caperton Braxton (1862-1914), J. W. Churchman (1857-1909).

In the clerk's office: William A. Burnett (1837-1899).

Some Augusta Homes

In addition to the many handsome old homes in Staunton may be mentioned the following homes in the county, with their builders:

Oak Grove, built about 1810 by Jacob Kinney.

Gaymont, by John McDowell.

Wheatlands, by William Poage.

Bear Wallow, by Judge David Fultz, and at one time owned by Chapman Johnson.

Selma, by Simpson F. Taylor.

Spring Farm, built by Hessian prisoners during the Revolution and added to and remodeled by Judge John Brown.

Steep Hill, by J. Lewis Peyton.

Montgomery Hall, built in 1824 by John H. Peyton from plans presented him by Thomas Jefferson.

Bellevue, by J. Emmett Guy.

Fairview Villa, by William F. Ast.

Edgegood, by Joseph P. Ast.

Killarney, by A. M. Bruce.

Glendale, by Silas Smith.

TWELVE VIRGINIA COUNTIES

Where the Western Migration Began

BY

JOHN H. GWATHMEY

AUTHOR OF

LEGENDS OF VIRGINIA COURTHOUSES, LEGENDS OF VIRGINIA LAWYERS, JUSTICE JOHN, THE LOVE AFFAIRS OF CAPTAIN JOHN SMITH.

INTRODUCTION BY

JOHN STEWART BRYAN

ILLUSTRATIONS BY

ELMO JONES

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Baltimore

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JOURNAL OF DOCTOR THOMAS WALKER—1749–50 [1]

Having, on the 12th of December last, been employed for a certain consideration [2] to go to the Westward in order to discover a proper Place for a Settlement, I left my house on the Sixth day of March, at ten o'clock, 1749–50, in the Company with Ambrose Powell, William Tomlinson, Colby Chew, Henry Lawless and John Hughs. Each man had a horse and we had two to carry the baggage. I lodged this night at Col. Joshua Fry's in Albemarle, which County includes the Chief of the head branches of James River on the East side of the Blue Ridge.

March, 7. Wee set off about 8, but the day proving wet, we only went to Thomas Joplin's on Rockfish. This is a pretty River, which might at a small expense be made fit for transporting Tobacco; but it has been lately stopped by a Mill Dam near the Mouth to the prejudice of the upper inhabitants who would at their own expense clear and make it navigable, were they permitted.

March, 8. We left Joplin's early. It began to rain about noon. I left my people at Thomas Jones's and went to the Reverend Mr. Robert Rose's on Tye River. This is about the size of Rockfish, as yet open, but how long the Avarice of Miller's will permit it to be so, I know not. At present, the Inhabitants enjoy plenty of fine fish, as Shad in their season, Carp, Rocks, Fat-Backs which I suppose to be Tench, Perch, Mullets etc.

9th. As the weather continues unlikely, I moved only to Baylor Walker's Quarters.

March 10th. The weather is still cloudy, and leaving my

---

[1] At this time the new year in England and its Colonies began on the 25th. of March, so that when this journal began it was still the year 1749. The change by which the first of January began the new year was made in 1752.

[2] His contract was with the Loyal Land Company, which had a grant of eight hundred thousand acres of land to be located north of the dividing line between Virginia and North Carolina, comprised in part the territory now embraced in Kentucky.

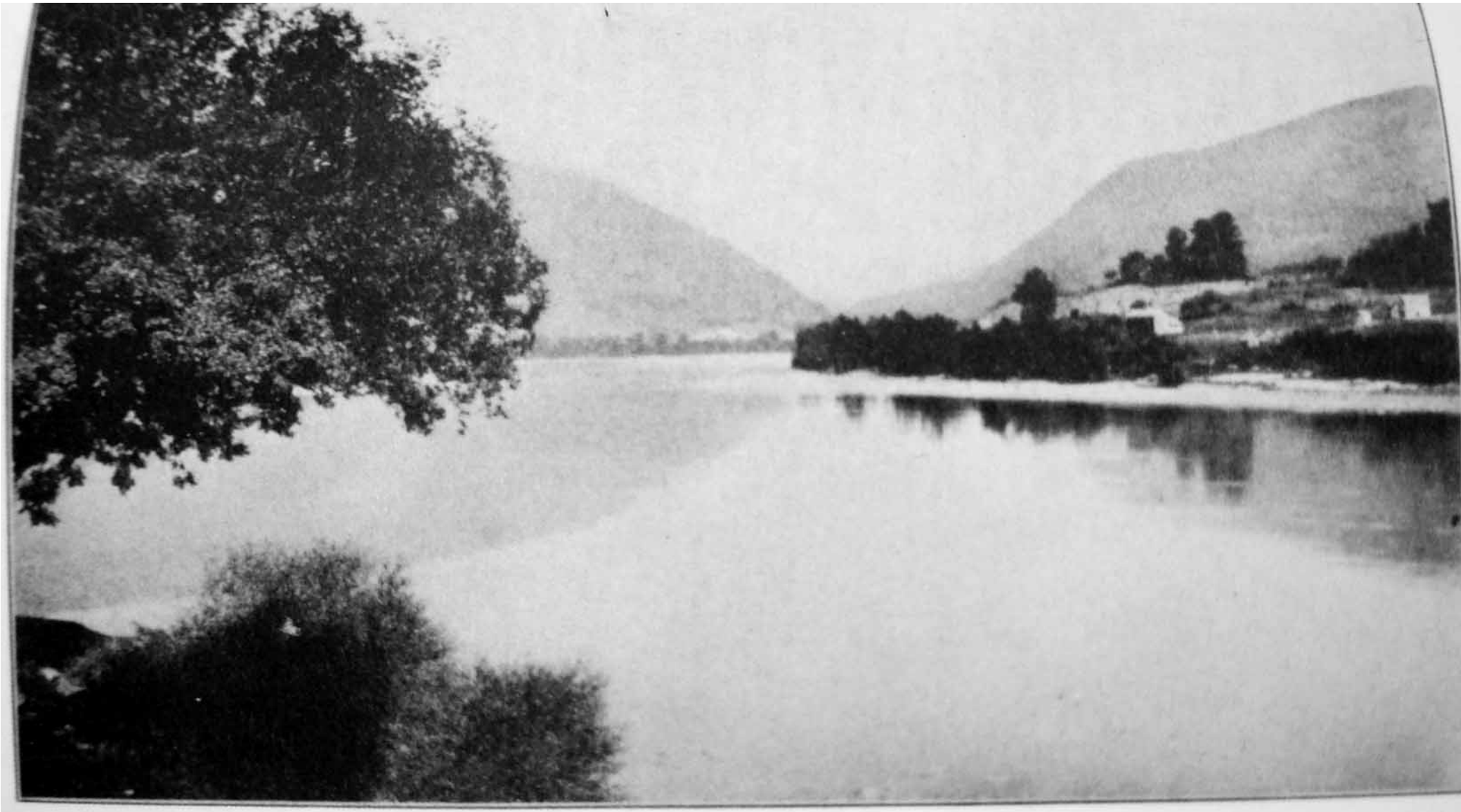

Photo by Cook

THE NARROWS

Where New River breaks through the mountains from the Atlantic to the Mississippi Watershed.
The farthest point reached by Botts & Fallow, 1671

People at the Quarter, I rode to Mr. John Harvie's, where I dined and return'd to the Quarter in ye evening.

11th. The Sabbath.

March 12th. We crossed the Fluvanna and lodged at Thomas Hunt's.

13th. We went early to William Calloway's and supplied ourselves with Rum, Thread, and other necessaries and from thence took the main wagon road leading to Wood's or the New River.[3] It is not well cleared or beaten yet, but will be a very good one with proper management. This night we lodged in Adam Beard's low grounds. Beard is an ignorant, impudent, brutish fellow, and would have taken us up, had it not been for a reason, easily to be suggested.

14th. We went from Beard's to Nicholas Welches, where we bought corn for our horses, and had some Victuals dress'd for Breakfast, afterwards we crossed the Blue Ridge. The Ascent and Descent is so easie that a Stranger would not know when he crossed the Ridge.[4] It began to rain about Noon and continued till night. We lodged at William Armstrong's. Corn is very scarce in these parts.

March 15th. We went to the great Lick[5] on A Branch of the Staunton and bought Corn of Michael Campbell for our horses. This Lick has been one of the best places for Game in these parts and would have been of much greater advantage to the Inhabitants than it has been if the Hunters had not killed the Buffaloes[6] for diversion, and the Elks and Deer for their

---

[3] This river was first discovered in 1671 by Colonel Abraham Wood, who lived at the falls of the Appomatox, now Petersburg Virginia. The line of his exploration was near and parallel to that of the boundary line between Va. and North Carolina as run in 1728–29 and described by Col. William Byrd, one of the Va. Commissioners, in the "Westover Papers." He crossed the Alleghaney mountains by a gap called Wood's (now Flower) Gap, and, passing down Little River, reached New River not a great distance above Ingle's Ferry, mentioned later in these notes. It was long called both Wood's and New River but the latter name is now used exclusively.

[4] The Kenawha River was in early days commonly supposed to signify in the Indian Tongue, "River of the Woods," but the name of Wood's River, as it was for some time called, evidently came from that of New River, its Main Branch.

[5] This locality is now the thriving town of Roanoke, in the Co. of the same name.

[6] It has been a generally received opinion that there were no buffalo east of the Blue Ridge, but while the locality here named is west of that

skins. This afternoon we got to the Staunton where the Houses of the Inhabitants had been carryed off with their grain and Fences by the Fresh last Summer, and lodged at James Robinson's, the only place I could hear of where they had corn to spare, notwithstanding the land is such that an industrious man might make 100 barrels a share in a Seasonable year.

16th March. We kept up the Staunton[7] to William Englishes.[8] He lives on a small Branch, and was not much hurt by the Fresh. He has a mill, which is the furtherest back except one lately built by the Sect of People who call themselves of the Brotherhood of Euphrates, and are commonly called the Duncards, who are the upper Inhabitants of the New River, which is about 400 yards wide at this place. They live on the west side, and we were obliged to swim our horses over.[9] The Duncards are an odd set of people, who make it a matter of Religion not to Shave their Beards, ly on beds, or eat flesh, though at present, in the last, they transgress, being constrained to it, they say, by the want of a sufficiency of Grain and Roots, they have not long been seated here. I doubt the plenty and deliciousness of the Venison and Turkeys has contributed not a little to this. The unmarried have no Property but live on a common Stock. They don't baptize either Young or Old, they keep their Sabbath on Saturday, and hold that all men shall be happy hereafter, but first must pass through punishment according to their Sins. They are very hospitable.

March 18th. The Sabbath.

19th. We could not find our horses and spent the day in

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mountain, it is not likely that the limit of their range was bounded by it. Col. Byrd killed buffalo in 1729 at points on the boundary line southeast of Roanoke between which and the coast there was no mountain. He states that it was not believed that they went any further north than the latitude of 40.

[7] The north fork of the Roanoke River formed by the junction of the Staunton and the Dan rivers in Halifax Co. about ten miles north of the dividing line between Va. & N. Carolina. It rises in the Alleghaney mountains and flows S. E. The upper portion of Staunton River is now called Roanoke, the lower portion Staunton, and after the junction with the Dan the Roanoke again.

[8] Near the present village of Blacksburg, Montgomery Co. Virginia.

[9] This crossing of the New River was near the present crossing of the turnpike which runs from Wytheville to Christiansburg and several miles above the crossing of the Norfolk and Western Railroad. It was afterward known as Ingles's Ferry. It is still owned and occupied by descendants of William and Mary Ingles.

Looking for them. In the evening we found their track.

20th. We went very early to the track of our Horses and after following them six or seven miles, we found them all together. we returned to the Duncards about 10 O'clock, and having purchased half a Bussell of Meal and as much small Homony we set off and lodged on a small Run between Peak Creek [10] and Reedy Creek.[11]

March 21st. We got to Reedy Creek and camped near James McCall's. I went to his house and Lodged and bought some Bacon, I wanted.

22nd. I returned to my people early. We got to a large Spring about five miles below Davises Bottom on Holstons [12] River and Camped.

23rd. We kept down the Holston River about four miles and Camped; and then Mr. Powell and I went to look for Samuel Stalnaker [13] who I had been inform'd was just moved out to settle. We found his camp, and returned to our own in the evening.

24th. We went to Stalnaker's, helped him to raise his house and camped about a quarter of a mile below him. In April, 1748,[14] I met the above mentioned Stalnaker between Reedy

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[10] Peak Creek enters the New River near the village of Newburn, in Pulaski Co.

[11] Probably Reed Creek in Wythe County.

[12] This was the Middle fork of the Holston, which joins the South Fork of Holston near Abingdon and forms the Tennessee. The Holston was called by the Indians first the Cat-Cloo, afterward the Watauga. It took its name, its present name, from an early hunter and explorer named Holston or Holstein.

[13] Samuel Stalnaker was probably, as his name indicates, one of the early pioneers from the Lower Shenandoah Valley or from Penn. of German descent, the family having numerous representatives in the Valley. He was doubtless a hunter and Indian trader who had visited the Cherokees and was acquainted with the route to Cumberland Gap, upon which Dr. Walker had never been, or he would not have needed a guide. It was from him evidently that Dr. Walker received information as to certain localities he was about to visit, as Clinch River, Cave Gap, and other points of which as he advanced into Kentucky, he gave previous information. It was not improbable that the route from the Ohio River to the Cumberland Gap and the Cherokee country, which at that time was defined and known as "the Warriors Path" was travelled by hunters and traders, and that Stalnaker was acquainted with it personally or from others. On Fry and Jefferson's Map, 1751, Stalnaker's settlement is put down as the extreme western habitation.

[14] From the fact that Dr. Walker was here in 1748, historians have fallen into the error of stating that it was in this year that he went to Cumberland Gap, in company with Col. James Patton, Major Charles

Creek Settlement and Holstons River, on his way to the Cherokee Indians [15] and expected him to pilate me as far as he knew but his affairs would not permit him to go with me.

March 25th. The Sabbath. Grass is plenty in the low grounds.

26th. We left the Inhabitans,[16] and kept nigh West to a large Spring on a Branch of the North Fork of the Holston. Thunder, Lightning, and Rain before Day.

27th. It began to snow in the morning and continued till Noon. The Land is very Hilly from West to North. Some snow lies on the tops of the mountains N.W. from us.

28th. We travelled to the lower end of Giant's Ditch on Reedy Creek.[17]

29th. Our Dogs were very uneasie most of this night.

30th. We kept down Reedy Creek [18] and discover'd the tracks of about 20 Indians, that had gone up the Creek between the time we camped last night, and set off this morning. We suppose they made our Dogs so restless last night. We camped on Reedy Creek.

March 30th. We caought two young Buffaloes one of which

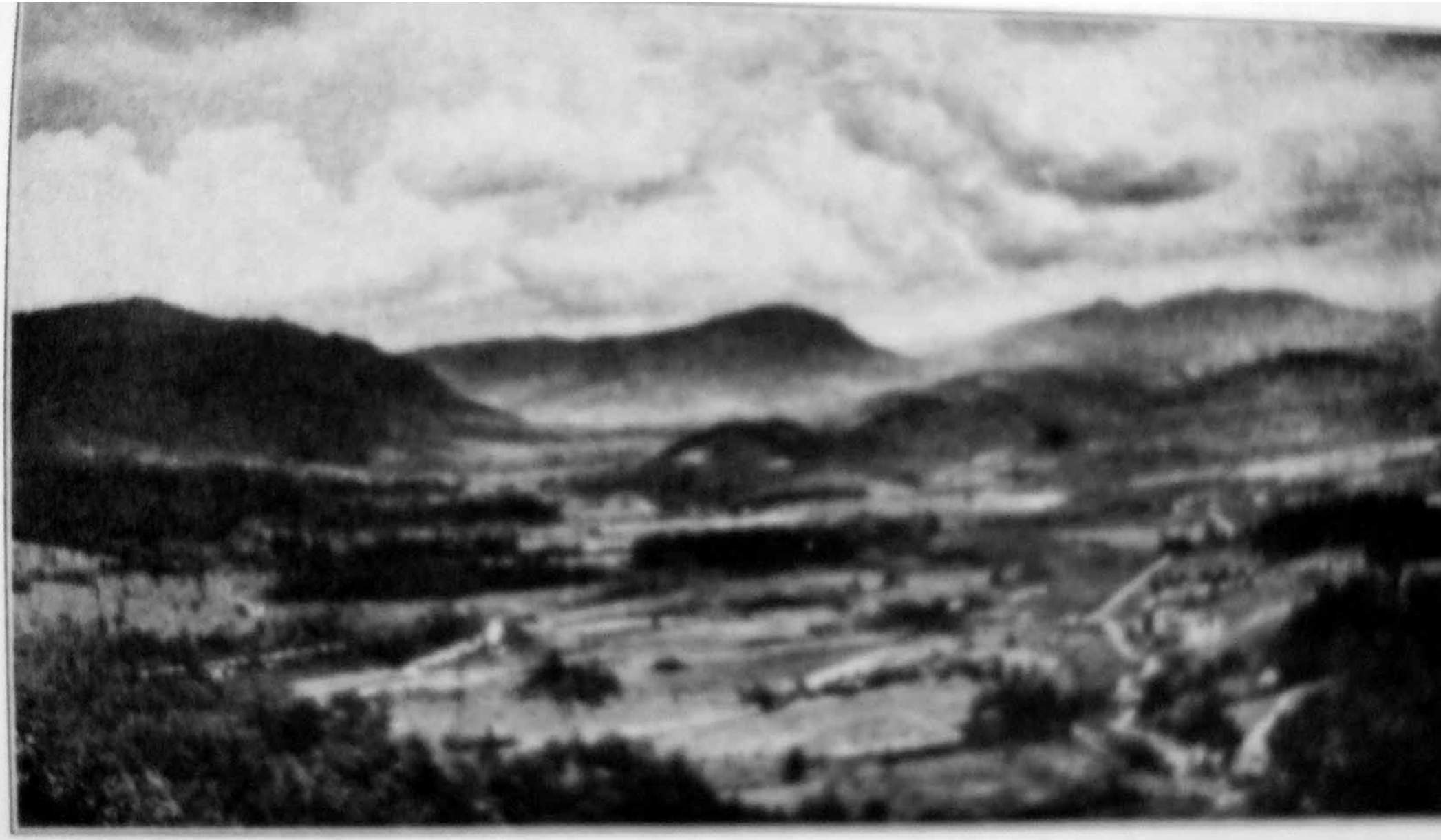
Campbell and others, but there is nothing upon which the assertion remains except a misty tradition. It is doubtless based upon the fact that these gentlemen, in 1748 Dr. Walker being one of the number, made an exploration with a view of taking up lands, as some of them did, on the Holston. This region then began to excite attention for settlement and the following year the boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina was extended to a point beyond that at which Doctor Walker was this day.

[15] The Cherokee Indians occupied East Tenn. and a part of Northwest Georgia adjacent. They were at times, and until 1759, friendly and very faithful to the Whites, furnishing volunteers in the early part of the French and Indian War. They were thus deadly enemies of the Shawnees and other tribes north of the Ohio, but in the Revolutionary War they united with them under British influence against the Americans.

[16] Inhabitans—Inhabitants, settlers, meaning that he had past the frontier of civilization.

[17] Enters the South Fork of the Holston River a short distance above its junction with the North Fork.

[18] Reedy Creek empties into the Holston at the Foot of Long Island, a noted locality in the early history of Tenn. Nearby a fort was erected by advice of Washington in 1758, by Col. William Byrd, which was later known as Fort Patrick Henry. Just below the mouth of Reedy Creek is the town of Kingsport, Sullivan County, and a short distance below the town the North Fork puts into the Holston. It was at this point the treaty of Watauga was held March, 1775, when the Cherokees sold to Richard Henderson And Company the land in Kentucky called Transylvania.



Courtesy S. N. Hurst

POWELL'S VALLEY

we killed, and having cut and marked the other we turn'd him out.

31st. We kept down Reedy Creek to Holston where we measured an Elm 25ft. round 3 ft. from the ground. we saw young Sheldrakes we went down the River to the north Fork and up the north fork about a quarter of a mile to a Ford, and then crossed it. In the Fork between the Holstons and the North River, are five Indian Houses built with loggs and covered with bark, and there were abundance of Bones, some whole Pots and Pans some broken. and many pieces of mats and Cloth. On the west side of the North River, is four Indian Houses such as before mentioned. we went four miles below the North River and camped on the Bank of the Holstons, opposite to a large Indian Fort.

April ye 1st. The Sabbath. we saw Perch, Mullets, and Carp in plenty, and caught one of the large Sort of Cat Fish. I marked my name, the day of the Month, and date of the year on Several Beech Trees.

2nd. we left Holston [19] and travelled through Small Hills till about Noon, when one of our horses being choaked by eating Reeds too gredily, we stopped having travelled 7 miles.

3rd. Our horse being recover'd, we travelled to the Rocky Ridge.[20] I went up to the top, to look for a pass but found it so rocky that I concluded not to attempt it there. This ridge may be known by Sight, at a distance. To the Eastward are many small mountains, and a Buffaloe Road berween them & the Ridge. The growth is Pine on the top and the rocks look white at a distance. we went Seven miles this day.

4th. We kept under the Rocky Ridge crossing several small Branches to the head of Holly Creek. we saw many small licks and plenty of Deer.

5th. we went down Holly Creek. There is much Holly in the Low Grounds and some Laurel and Ivy. About three in the afternoon, the Ridge appeared less stony and we passed it,[21] and

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[19] On leaving the Holston River his route was northwest.

[20] The Clinch Mountain which runs through part of East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia in a northeasterly direction, a very regular chain with gaps at long intervals. The small hills refered to are the paralell outliers of the Clinch Mountain.

[21] He crossed Clinch Mountain most probably at Looney's Gap and reached the Clinch River above the present site of Sneedville, Hancock

camped on a small Branch about a mile from the top. my riding Horse choaked himself this evening and I drenched him with water to wash down the Reeds, and it answered the End.

6th. It proving wet we did not move.

7th. We rode 8 miles over Broken ground. It snowed most of the day. In the evening our dogs caught a large He Bear, which before we could come up to shoot him had wounded a dog of mine, so that he could not travel, and we carried him on Horseback till he recovered.

8th. The Sabbath. Still Snow.

9th. We travelled to a river, which I suppose to be that which the Hunters call Clinches River[22] from one Clinch a Hunter, who first found it. we marked several Beeches on the East Side. we could not find a ford Shallow eneugh to carry our Baggage over on our Horses. Ambrose Powell Forded over on one horse and we drove the others after him. We then made a raft and carried over one load of Baggage, but when the raft was brought back, it was so heavy that it would not carry anything more dry.

April 10th. we waded and carried the remainder of our Baggage on our shoulders at two turns over the River, which is about one hundred and thirty yards wide, we went on about five miles and Camped on a Small Branch.

April 11th. Having travelled 5 miles to and over an High Mountain, Cumberland Gap, we came to Turkey Creek, which

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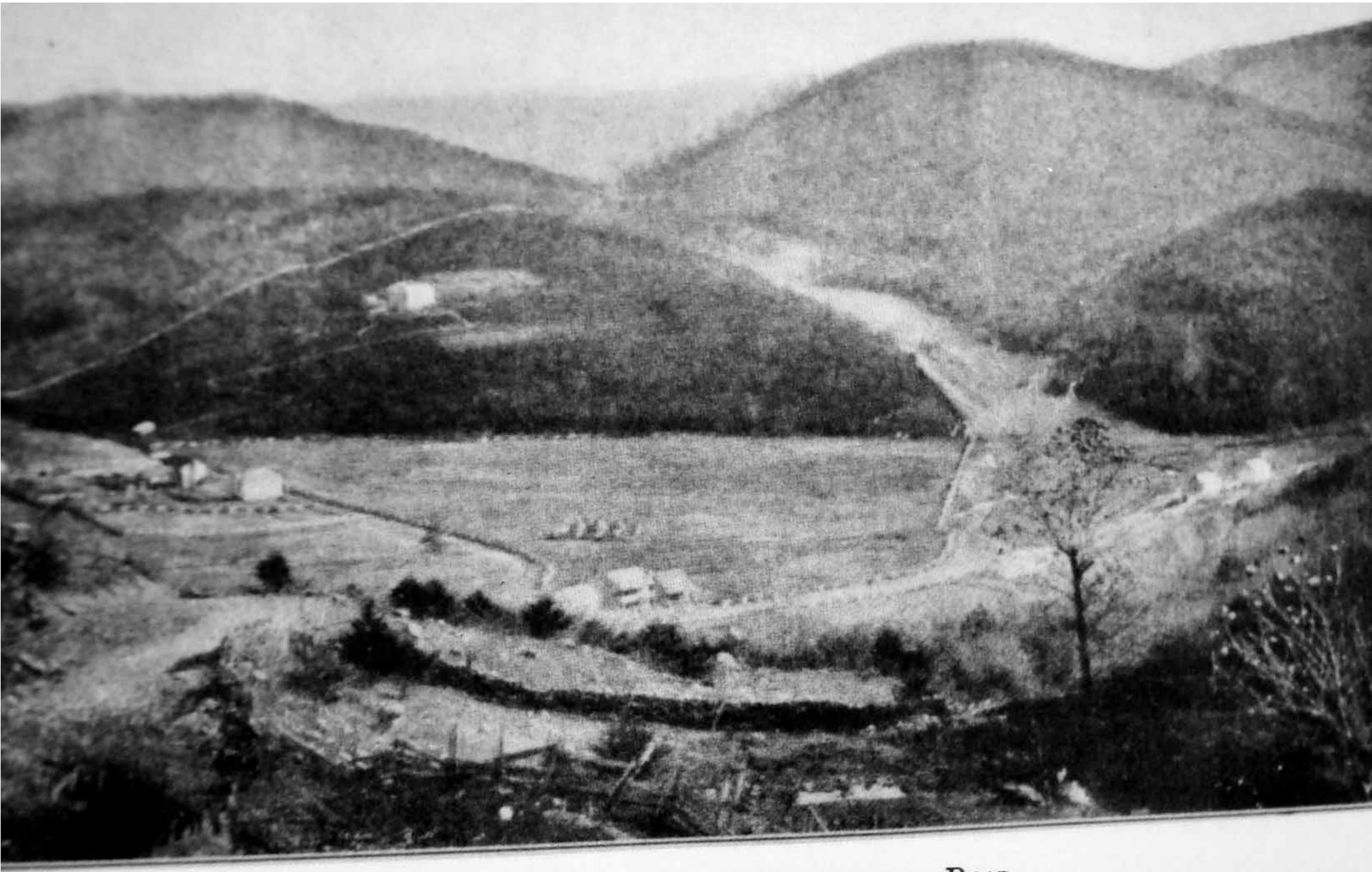
County Tenn. Thence he went up Greasy Creek northwestward and entered the narrow valley between Newman's Ridge and Powell's Mountain, running paralell to the Clinch. The former, or Eastern Ridge, as Dr. Walker calls it, is twenty-five hundred feet high, and the latter, or Western Ridge, two thousand feet high as shown by the excellent contour map of the U. S. Geological Survey, with the details of Dr. Walker's route as indicated by his journal agrees with striking accuracy. On the 11th Dr. Walker went down Big Sycamore Creek, which runs southwest between these ridges, to its junction with an unnamed creek coming into it from the southwest. He travelled up the latter by a buffalo road over several divides, and on the 12th reached Powell's River, ten Miles from Cumberland Gap.

[22] A tributary of the Tenn. running paralell with the Clinch Mountain, rising in Tazewell and Bland Cos. Va. and interlocking with the Bluestone River and Wolf Creek, tributaries of New River. His correct nomenclature of the River indicates that he had received information concerning the route travelled from Stalnaker or other source. Haywood's History of Tennessee, in acounting for the name, ascribes it to an incident, which dates eleven years after Dr. Walker's visit, in which a man on the point of drowning called to his companions, "Clinch me . . . Clinch me!"



CUMBERLAND GAP, WILDERNESS ROAD

we kept down 4 miles. It lies between two Ridges of Mountains, that to the Eastward being the highest.[23]

12th. We kept down the creek 2 miles further, where it meets with a large Branch coming from the South West and thence runs through the East Ridge making a very good pass; and a large Buffaloe Road goes from that Fork to the Creek over the west ridge, which we took and found the Ascent and Descent tollerably easie. From this Mountain we rode on four miles to Beargrass River. Small Cedar Trees are very plenty on the flat ground nigh the River, and some Barberry trees on the East side of the River. on the Banks is some Beargrass. We kept up the River 2 miles. I found Small pieces of Coal and a great plenty of very good yellow flint. The water is the most transparent I ever saw. It is about 70 yds. wide.

April 13th. We went four miles to large Creek which we called Cedar Creek being a Branch of Bear-Grass, and from thence Six miles to Cave Gap, the land being Levil. On the North side of the Gap is a large Spring, which falls very fast, and just above the Spring is a small Entrance to a Large Cave, which the spring runs through, and there is a constant Stream of Cool air issueing out. The Spring is sufficient to turn a Mill. Just at the Foot of the Hill is a Laurel Thicket and the spring Water runs through it. On the South side is a Plain Indian Road. on the top of the Ridge are Laurel Trees marked with Crosses, others Blazed and several Figures on them. As I went down the other Side, I soon came to some Laurel in the head of the Branch. A Beech stands on the left hand, on which I cut my name. This Gap may be seen at a considerable distance, and there is no other, that I know of, except one about two miles to the North of it which does not appear to be So low as the other. The Mountain on the North Side of the Gap is very Steep and Rocky, but on the South side it is not so. We Called it Steep Ridge. At the foot of the hill on the North West side we came to a Branch, that made a great deal of flat land. We kept down it 2 miles, several other Branches Coming in to make it a large Creek, and we called it Flat Creek.[24] We camped on the bank

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[23] Now Big Sycamore Creek.

[24] Present Yellow Creek, upon which, nearby, is now the site of Mid-

where we found very good coal. I did not Se any Lime Stone beyond this ridge. We rode 13 miles this day.

April 14th. We kept down the Creek 5 miles chiefly along the Indian Road.

April 15th. Easter Sunday. Being in bad grounds for our Horses we moved 7 miles along the Indian Road, to Clover Creek. Clover and Hop vines are plenty here.

April 16th. Rai(n). I made a pair of Indian Shoes, those I brought out being bad.

17th. Still Rain. I went down the Creek[25] a hunting and found that it went into a River about a mile below our camp. This, which is Flat Creek and some others join'd I called Cumberland River.

18th. Still Cloudy. We kept down the Creek to the River along the Indians Road to where it crosses. Indians have lived about this Ford some years ago. We kept on down the South Side. After riding 5 miles from our Camp, we left the River, it being very crooked. In Rideing 3 miles we came on it again. It is about 60 or 70 yds. Wide. We rode 8 (?) miles this day.

19th. We left the River but in four miles we came on it again at the Mouth of Licking Creek, which we went up and down another. In the Fork of Licking Creek is a Lick much used by Buffaloes and many large Roads lead to it. This afternoon Ambrose Powell was bit by a Bear in his Knee. We rode 7 miles this day.

20th. we kept down the Creek[26] 2 miles to the River again. It appears not any wider here at the mouth of Clover Creek, but much deeper. I thought it proper to Cross the River and begin a bark Conoe.

April 21st. We finished the Conoe and tryed her. About Noon it began to Thunder, lighten, hail and rain prodigously and continued about 2 hours.

22d. The Sabbath. One of the Horses was found unable to walk this morning. I then propos'd that with two of the company I would proceed, and the other three should continue

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[25] Clear (Clover) Creek empties into Cumberland River just above Pineville, where the River breaks through Pine Mountain, a range paralell to Cumberland Mountain, eight or ten miles distant. Yellow (Flat) Creek empties into it several miles above.

[26] This creek, now known as Swan Pond Creek, was named by Daniel Boone.

here till our return, which was agreed to, and lots were drawn to determine who should go, they all being desirous of it. Ambrose Powell, and Colby Chew were the fortunate Persons.

23rd. Having carried our Baggage over in the Bark Conoe, and Swam our Horses, we all crossed the River. Then Ambrose Powell, Colby Chew, and I departed Leaving the others to provide and salt some Bear, build an house, and plant some peach stones and Corn. We travelled about 12 miles and encamped on Crooked Creek. The Mountains hereabouts are very small and here is a great deal of flat Land. We got through the Coal today.

April 24th. We kept on Westerly 18 miles, got clear of the Mountains and found the Land poor and the Woods very thick beyond them, and Laurel and Ivy in and near the Branches. Our horses suffered very much here for want of food. This day we came on a fresh track of 7 or 8 Indians but could not overtake them.

25th. We kept on West 5 miles, the Land continuing much Same, the Laurel rather growing worse, and the food scarcer. I got up a tree on a Ridge and saw the Growth of the Land much the same as Far as my Sight could reach. I then concluded to return to the rest of my Company. I kept on my track 1 mile then turn'd southerly and went to Cumberland River at the mouth of a water Course, that I named Rocky Creek.[27]

April 27th. We crossed Indian Creek and went down Meadow Creek to the River. There comes in another from the Southward as big as this one we are on. Below the mouth of this Creek, and above the Mouth are the remains of several Indian Cabbins amongst them a round Hill made by Art about 20 feet high and 60 over the Top. we went up the River, and Camped on the Bank.

28th. We kept up the River to our Company whom we found all well, but the lame horse was as bad as we left him, and another had been bit in the Nose by a Snake. I rub'd the wound with Bears oil, and gave him a drench of the same and another of the decoction of Rattle Snake root some time after. The

[27] The point at which Dr. Walker here reached Cumberland River is about twenty miles below that at which he crossed it on the 23rd. The creek which he called Rocky Creek is now called Patterson's and the

People had built a house 12 by 8, clear'd and broken some ground, and planted some Corn and Peach Stones. They also had killed several Bears and cured the Meat. This day Colby Chew and his Horse fell down the Bank. I Bled and gave him Volatile drops, and he soon recovered.

April 29th. The Sabbath. The Bitten Horse is better. 3 Quarters of A mile below the house is a Pond in the Low ground of the River, a quarter of a mile in length and 200 yds. wide much frequented by Fowl.

30th. I blazed a way from our House to the River. On the other side of the River is a large Elm cut down and barked about 20 feet and another standing just by it with the Bark cut around at the root and about 15 feet above. About 200 yards below this is a white Hiccory Barked about 15 feet. The depth of the water here, when the lowest that I have seen it, is 7 or 8 feet, the Bottom of the River Sandy, ye Banks very high, and the Current very slow. The Bitten horse being much mended, we set off and left the lame one. He is white, branded on the near Buttock with a swivil Stirrup Iron, and is old. We left the River and having crossed several Hills and Branches, camped in a Valley North from the House.

May the 1st. Another Horse being Bitten, I applyed Bears Oil as before Mention'd. We got to Powell's River in the afternoon and went down it along an Indian Road, much frequented, to the mouth of a Creek on the West side of the River, where we camped. The Indian Road goes up the Creek, and I think it is that Which goes through Cave Gap.

2d. We kept down the River. At the Mouth of a Creek that comes in on the East side there is a Lick, and I believe there was a hundred Buffaloes at it. About 2 o'clock we had a shower of Rain. we Camped on the River which is very crooked.

May 3rd. We crosses a narrow Neck of Land, came on the River again and Kept down it to an Indian Camp, that had been built this Spring, and in it we took up our Quarters. It began to Rain about Noon and continued till Night.

4th. We crossed a narrow Neck of Land and came on the River again, which we kept down till it turn'd to the Westward, we then left it, and went up a Creek which we called Colby's Creek. The River is about 50 yards over where we left it.

5th. We got to Tomlinson's River, which is about the size

of Powell's River, and I cut my name on a Beech, that stands on the North side of the River. Here is plenty of Coal in the South Bank opposite to our Camp.

6th. The Sabbath. I saw Goslings, which shows that Wild Geese stay here all the year. Ambrose Powell had the misfortune to sprain his well Knee.

7th. We went down Tomlinson's River the Land being very broken and our way being embarrassed by trees, that had been blown down about 2 years ago.

May 8th. We went up a creek on the North side of the River.

9th. We got to Lawless River, which is much like the others. The Mountains here are very Steep and on Some of them there is Laurel and Ivy. The tops of the mountains are very Rocky and some parts of the Rocks seem to be composed of Shells, Nuts and many other Substances petrified and cemented together with a kind of Flint. We left the River and after travelling some Miles we got among some Trees that had been blown down about 2 years, and we were obliged to go down a Creek to the River again, the Small Branches and Mountains being impassable.

10th. We staid on the River and dressed an Elk skin to make Indian Shoes—ours being quite worn out.

11th. We left the River, found the Mountains very bad, and got to a Rock by the side of a Creek Sufficient to shelter 200 men from Rain. Finding it so convenient, we concluded to stay and put our Elk skin in order for shoes and make them.

May 12th. Under the Rock is a Soft Kind of Stone almost like Allum in taste; below it A Layer of Coal about 12 inches thick and a white Clay under that. I called the Run Allum Creek. I have observed several mornings past, that the Trees begin to drop just before day & continue dripping till almost Sunrise, as if it rain'd slowly. we had some rain this day.

13th. The Sabbath.

14th. When our Elk's skin was prepared we had lost every awl that we brought out, and I made one with the shank of an old Fishing hook, the other People made two of Horse Shoe Nails, and with these we made our Shoes or Moccosons. We wrote several of our Names with Coal under the Rock, and I wrote our names, the time of our coming and leaving this place

on paper and stuck it to the Rock with Morter, and then set off. We crossed Hughes's River and Lay on a large branch of it. There is no dew this morning but a shower of Rain about 6 o'Clock. The River is about 50 yards wide.

May 15th. Laurel and Ivy increase upon us as we go up the Branch. About noon it began to rain & we took up our quarters in a valley between very Steep Hills.

16th. We crossed several Ridges and Branches. About two in the afternoon, I was taken with Violent Pains in my hip.

17th. Laurel and Ivy are very plenty and the Hills still very Steep. The Woods have been burnt some years past, and are not very thick, the Timber being almost all kill'd. We camped on a Branch of Naked Creek. The pain in my hip is somewhat asswaged.

18th. We went up Naked Creek to the head and had a plain Buffaloe Road most of the way. From thence we proceeded down Wolf Creek and on it we Camped.

19th. We kept down ye Hunting Creek[28] which we crossed and left. It rained most of the afternoon.

May 20th. The Sabbath. It began to Rain about noon and continued till next Day.

21st. It left off rainig about 8. we crossed several Ridges and small Branches and Camped on a Branch of Hunting Creek. in the Evening it rained very hard.

22d. We went down the Branch to Hunting Creek and kept it to Milley's River.[29]

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[28] This was Station Camp Creek, which empties into the Kentucky River just above Ivine, county-seat of Estill Co. At the mouth of this creek Daniel Boone lived alone in 1770, while his brother, Squire Boone, returned to N. Carolina for ammunition, and there they spent the following winter. The Indian trace up Station Creek was known as "Ouasiota Pass," and when they reached the summit they thought they were on top of Cumberland Mountains, the name "Ouasiota" Mountains being given to that range, together with all its elevated region eastwardly to the main chain. . . . "Ouasiota Pass" is laid down on Pownall's Map, 1776, with routes converging to it from Big Bone Lick, near the Ohio, the lower Shawnee town at the mouth of the Scioto, and from the mouth of the Big Sandy, called Totteroy.

[29] This was the Kentucky River. No stream has been called by more names. The histories of Kentucky generally credited Dr. Walker with having given it the name of Louisa, but there is no foundation whatever for this assumption, as this journal fully shows. It is put down on Pownall's and other of the early Maps as Milley's River, and it was probably known to traders and hunters at the time of Dr. Walker's expedition, from the Miami Indian name, which was "Millewakame." Of

23rd. We attempted to go down the River but could not. We then Crossed Hunting Creek and attempted to go up the River but could not. it being very deep we began a Bark Canoe. The River is about 90 or 100 yards wide. I blazed several Trees in the Fork and marked T.W. on a Sycomore Tree 40 feet around. It has a large hole on the N:W: side about 20 feet from the ground and is divided into 3 branches just by the hole, and it stands about 80 yards above the mouth of Hunting Creek.

May 24th. We finished the Canoe and crossed the River about noon, and I marked a Sycomore 30 feet round and several Beeches on the North side of the River opposite the mouth of the Creek. Game is very scarce hereabouts.

25th. It began to Rain before Day and continued till about Noon. We travelled about 4 miles on a Ridge and Camped on a Small Branch.

26th. We kept down the Branch almost to the River, and up a Creek, and then along a Ridge till our Dogs roused a Large Buck Elk, which we followed down to a Creek. He killed Ambrose Powell's Dog in the Chase, and we named the Run Tumbler's Creek, the Dog being of that name.

27th. The Sabbath.

28th. Cloudy. We could not get our Horses till almost night, when we went down the Branch. We lay on to the Main Creek [30] and turn'd up it.

May 29th. We proceeded up the Creek 7 miles and then took a North Branch and went up it 5 miles and then encamped on it.

30th. We went to the head of the Branch we lay on 12 miles. A shower of Rain fell this day. The Woods are burnt fresh about here and are the only Fresh burnt Woods we have seen these six Weeks.

31st. We crossed 2 Mountains and camped just by a Wolf's Den. They were very impudent and after they had twice been shot at, they kept howling about the Camp. It rained till Noon this day.

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the rivers named by Dr. Walker, he never leaves us in doubt always saying so in express terms when he names one. Other names by which the Kentucky River were known were Cuttawa, Cuttawba, Catawba, Chenoka, and Chenoa.

[30] This was the Red River, which in ordinary seasons is a small stream, but becomes very formidable after heavy rains on its headwaters.

June ye 1st. We found a Wolf's den and caught 4 of the young ones. It rained this morning. we went up a creek crossed a Mountain and went through a Gap, and then, camped on the head of A Branch.

2d. We went down the Branch to a River 70 yards wide, which I called Fredericks River. we kept up it a half mile to a Ford, where we crossed and proceeded up the North side 3 miles. It rained most of the afternoon. Elks are very plenty on this River.

June 3rd. Whit-Sunday. It rained most of the day.

4th. I blazed several trees four ways on the outside of the low Grounds by a Buffaloe Road, and marked my name on Several Beech Trees. Also I marked some by the River side just below a mossing place with an Island in it. We left the River about ten O'clock & got to Falling Creek, and went up it till 5 in the afternoon, when a very Black Cloud appearing we turn'd out our horses got tent Poles up and were just stretching a Tent, when it began to rain and hail and was succeeded by a violent Wind which blew down our Tent & a great many Trees about it, several large ones within 30 yds. of the Tent. we all left the place in confusion and ran different ways for shelter. After the Storm was over, we met at the Tent, and found that all was safe.

5th. There was a violent Shower of Rain before day. This morning we went up the Creek about 3 miles and then were obliged to leave it, the Timber being so blown down we could not get through. After we left the Creek we kept on a Ridge [31] 4 miles, then turned down the head of a branch and it began to rain and continued raining very hard till Night.

June 6th. We went down the Branch till it became a Large Creek. It runs very swift, falling more than any of the Branches we have been on of late. I called it Rapid Creek. After we had gone eight miles we could not ford, and we camped in the low Ground. There is a great sign of Indians on this Creek.

7th. The Creek being fordable, we crossed it and kept down 12 miles to a River about 100 yards over, which we called Louisa [32] River.[33] The creek is about 30 yds. wide and part of

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[31] This was the watershed between the Licking and Big Sandy Rivers.

[32] This was evidently Paint Creek, near the mouth of which is Paintsville, the County seat of Johnson Co. The valley of the upper Licking

ye River breakes into ye Creek—making an Island on which we camped.

8th. The River is so deep we cannot ford it and as it is falling we conclude to stay and hunt. In the afternoon Mr. Powell and my Self was a hunting about a mile and a half from the camp, and heard a gun just below us on the other side of the River, and as none of our People could cross, I was in hopes of getting some direction from him, but I could not find him.

June 9th. We crossed the River and went down it to the mouth of a Creek & up the Creek to the head and over a Ridge into a Steep Valley and Camped.

June 10th. Trinity Sunday. Being in very bad Ground for our Horses we concluded to move. we were very much hindered by the Trees, that were blown down on Monday last. We Camped on a Small Branch.

11th. It rained violently the Latter part of the night till 9 o'clock. The Branch is impassable at present. We lost a Tomohawk and a Cann by the Flood.

12th. The water being low we went down the Branch to a large Creek, and up the Creek. Many trees in the Branches are Wash'd up by the Roots and others barked by the old trees, that went down ye stream. The Roots in the Bottom of the Run are Barked by the Stones.

June 13th. We are much hindered by the Gust & a shower of Rain about Noon. Game is very scarce here, and the mountains very bad, the tops of the Ridges being so covered with ivy and the sides so steep and stony, that we were obliged to cut our way through with our Tomohawks.

14. The woods are still bad and game scarce. It rained today about Noon & we camped on the top of a Ridge.[34]

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is much more elevated than that of the Big Sandy, and the descent to the latter is quite abrupt.

[33] This river was named Louisa, after the sister of the Duke of Cumberland, for which soldier Dr. Walker seems to have had a great partiality. It has always been said that it was named for the wife of the Duke, but he was never married. The stream is known as the Louisa or Levisa Fork of the Big Sandy, and is joined by the Tug Fork, the northeast boundary between Virginia and Kentucky, at Louisa, C. H. seat of Lawrence Co., 40 miles north of Paintsville. The Indian name of the Big Sandy was Chattaroi or Chattarawha. It was also called Totteroi.

[34] This was the dividing ridge between the two forks of the Big Sandy. He was now travelling towards the southeast, having this day

15th–16th. We got on a large creek where Turkey are plenty and some Elks. we went a hunting and killed 3 turkies. Hunted and killed 3 Bears and some Turkeys.

17th. The Sabbath. We killed a large Buck Elk.

18th. having prepared a good stock of meat we left the Creek crossing several Branches and Ridges. the woods still continue bad the weather hot and our horses so far spent, that we are all forced to walk.

June 19th. We got to Laurel Creek early this morning, and met with so impudent a Bull Buffaloe that we were obliged to shoot him, or he would have been amongst us. we then went up the Creek six miles, thence up a North Branch to its head, and attempted to cross a mountain, but it proved so high and difficult, that we were obliged to camp on the side of it. This ridge is nigh the eastern edg of the Coal Land.[35]

20th. We got to the top of the Mountain and could discover a Flat to the South and South East. we went down from the Ridge to a Branch and down the Branch to Laurel Creek not far from where we left it yesterday and Camped. my riding horse was bit by a Snake this day, and having no Bears Oil I rub'd the place with a piece of fat meat which had the desired effect.

21st. We found the Level nigh the Creek so full of Laurel that we were obliged to go up a Small Branch, and from the head of it to the Creek again, and found it good travelling a Small distance from the Creek. we camped on the Creek. Deer are very scarce on the Coal Land, I having seen but 4 since the 30th. of April.

June 22nd. We kept up to the head of the Creek, the Land being Leveller than we have lately seen, and here are some large Savanna's. Most of the Branches are full of Laurel and Ivy. Deer and Bears are plenty.

23rd. Land continues level with Laurel and Ivy and we got to a large Creek with very high and steep Banks full of rocks, which I call'd Clifty Creek, the Rocks are 100 feet perpendicular in some places.

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passed the divide between the waters of the Louisa and Tug Forks of the Big Sandy.

[35] This was the outcrop of the Pocahontas coal field in W. Virginia, now extensively mined, the Norfolk and Western Railroad penetrating that region and having been extended down the Tug Fork to the Ohio at Kenova, just above the mouth of the Big Sandy.

24th. The Sabbath.

25th. We crossed Clifty Creek. Here is a little Coal and the Land still flat.

26th. We crossed a Creek that we called Dismal Creek, the Banks being the worst and the Laurel the thickest I have ever seen. The Land is Mountainous on the East Side of the Dismal Creek, and the Laurels end in a few miles. We camped on a Small Branch.

27th. The Land is very High and we crossed several Ridges and camped on a small Branch. it rained about Noon and continued till the next day.

28th. It continued raining till Noon, and we set off as soon as it ceased and went down the Branch we lay on to the New River, just below the Mouth of the Green Bryer. Powell, Tomlinson and myself striped, and went into the New River to try if we could wade over at any point. After some time having found a place we return'd to the others and took such things as would take damage by water on our shoulders, and waded over Leading our Horses. The Bottom is very uneven, the Rocks very slippery and the Current strong most of the way. We camped in the low Ground opposite the mouth of the Green Bryer.

29th. We kept up Green Bryer.[36] It being a wet day we went only 2 miles, and camped on the North side.

June 30th. We went 7 miles up the River which is very Crooked.

July ye 1st. The Sabbath. Our Salt being almost spent, we travelled 10 miles sometimes on the River, and sometimes at a distance from it.

2nd. We kept up the River the chief part of this day and we travelled about 10 miles.

3rd. we went up the River 10 miles today.

4th. We went up the River 10 miles through very bad Woods.

5th. The way growing worse, we travelled 9 mile only.

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[36] The route of Dr. Walker from this point homeward needs but little comment. He followed substantially the present line of the Chespeake & Ohio R. R., crossing the Alleghaney divide on the 8th. of July, passing Hot Springs on the 9th, and reaching Augusta Court House (Staunton Va) on the 11th. Crossing the Shenandoah Valley and passing over the Blue Ridge at Rock Fish Gap, he completed the circle of his arduous expedition of four months and seven days by arriving at Castle Hill on the 16th of July.

6th. We left the River. The low Grounds on it are of Little value, but on the Branches are very good, and there is a great deal of it, and the high land is very good in many places. We got on a large Creek called Anthony's Creek which affords a great deal of Very good Land, and is chiefly Bought. we kept up the Creek 4 miles and Camped. This Creek took its name from an Indian, called John Anthony, that frequently hunts in these Woods. There are some inhabitants of the Branches of Green Bryer, but we missed their Plantations.

July 7. We kept up the Creek, and about Noon 5 men overtook us and inform'd that we were only 8 miles from the inhabitants on a Branch of James River called Jackson's River. We exchanged some Tallow for Metal and Parted. We camped on a Creek nigh the Top of the Alleghaney Ridge, which we named Ragged Creek.

8th. Having Shaved, Shifted and made New shoes we left our useless raggs at ye camp and got to Walker Johnston's about Noon. We moved over to Robert Armstrong's and staid there all night. The People here are very Hospitable and would be better able to support Travellers was it not for the great number of Indian Warriers that frequently take what they want from them, much to their prejudice.

July 9th. We went to the Hot Springs and found Six Invalids there. The Spring Water is very Clear and warmer than New Milk, and there is a Spring of cold Water within 20 feet of the warm one. I left one of my company this day.

10th. Having a Path we rode 20 miles and lodged at Captain Jemyson's below the Panther Gap. Two of my Company went to a Smith to get their Horses shod.

11th. Our way mending, we travelled 30 miles to Augusta Court House, where I found Mr. Andrew Johnston, the first of my acquaintance I had seen, since the 26th day of March.

12th. Mr. Johnston lent me a fresh horse and sent my horses to Mr. David Stewards who was so kind as to give them Pastureage. About 8 o'Clock I set off leaving all my Company. It began to Rain about 2 in the afternoon and I lodged at Captain David Lewis's about 34 miles from Augusta Court House.

13th. I got home about Noon.

We killed in the journey 13 Buffaloes, 8 Elks, 53 Bears, 20 Deer, 4 wild Geese, about 150 Turkeys, besides small game. We might have killed three times as much meat, if we had wanted it.